THE
UNIVERSAL MAGAZINE.

N° LVII.—Vol. X.] *For* AUGUST, 1808. [New Series.

"We shall never envy the honours which wit and learning obtain in any other cause, if we can be numbered among the writers who have given ardour to virtue, and confidence to truth."—Dr. Johnson.

ORIGINAL COMMUNICATIONS.

Buffon *and* Voltaire.

Sir,

ANECDOTES of literary men are among the most agreeable amusements of desultory study, for of those who read them, the greater part read what is more or less analogous to themselves. A Magazine should be a Turkish bazar, full of variety, and secure from destruction by the imperishable nature of its materials. To lend a hand therefore towards its formation is my first wish in sending you the following: my second is to disseminate more widely what, at present, can be known only to a few.

Buffon, in his *Theory of the Earth*, refers ironically to a *Lettre Italienne* upon the changes which have happened to the terrestrial globe, printed at Paris in the year 1745. In a short paragraph, he speaks of this pamphlet sarcastically enough: but he did not know that it was written by Voltaire. In a subsequent edition of his works, therefore, though he still retained that paragraph, he added immediately afterwards the following:

"In what I have written upon the subject of the Italian letter, it may be thought, as I myself think, that I have not treated M. de Voltaire with sufficient respect. M. de Voltaire is a man who, from the superiority of his talents, merits the highest esteem. This Italian letter was brought to me at the very time when I was correcting that sheet of my book in which I have mentioned it. I only read it cursorily, for I thought it was the work of some learned Italian, who, according to his own historical knowledge, had followed his prejudices without consulting nature; and it was not till after the impression of my volume upon the Theory of the Earth that I was positively assured, the letter in question, was written by M. de Voltaire. I then repented of my expressions.* Such is the plain truth. I declare it as much for the sake of M. de Voltaire as on my own account, and for that of posterity, whom I would not wish to leave in doubt as to the high esteem which I have always had for a man so great, and who is such an honour to the age in which he lives."

Upon this paragraph Sonnini makes the following observations:—

"No man had, doubtless, a greater right to commendation than Buffon; and no person was, in fact, more jealous of it. He received praises with avidity, come from what quarter they might: of the periodical publications he kept only those which contained his own eulogies. He delighted to speak of them, and to read them; and he would have seen with impatience a critique upon an author who had burned some grains of incense before the statue of the sublime historian of nature. With this sensibility, or rather with this vanity, which in any other would have been misplaced, but which in Buffon appeared amiable, it may be conceived how the critique must have affected him. Some witticisms scattered through

* Upon this let me remark with indignation, that Buffon compromised at once his literary and moral character. If what he said was true, why repent, even though he had said it of his friend? If it was not true, why deliberately write a falsehood? He either, therefore, meanly flattered a great man, or dishonestly wrote what at the time he knew to be false.

various parts of the writings of the philosopher of Ferney had irritated the philosopher of Montbard. These two men, whose uncommon genius and whose immortal labours, formed the proudest ornament of the age in which they lived, were alienated from, and almost the enemies of each other, and there was nothing in common between them, but the splendor of renown. Buffon did not dissemble his disgust at Voltaire: he frequently and plainly spoke of it. When at the sittings of the French Academy, some new work of Voltaire's was read, Buffon gave very evident and unequivocal marks of his disapprobation. Things were in this state when Buffon, wishing that his son should form his mind in the great school of nations, sent him upon his travels. His first steps were directed towards Switzerland, and his governor received instructions to present him at Ferney. Extremely flattered by this sort of advance, from the Pliny of France, Voltaire received the young man with the most honourable distinction, and he wrote to the father a letter of thanks and of praises, which I have myself seen at Montbard. This was attacking Buffon's greatest foible: he replied to Voltaire in that amiable but dignified manner, which was natural in him: and finally, to give him a public proof of deference and esteem, he composed that small paragraph in the new edition of his works, which has been given above: a sort of retractation which may be regarded as the seal of the reconciliation of genius."

Such is the ingenious defence of Sonnini of the vanity of Buffon: a quality that never can appear to advantage in any man, and least of all in a man of genius. The effeminate mind of a Frenchman may applaud and admire, what the sober dignity of a philosopher would despise and condemn: and, surely, there is nothing more offensive to a man of plain integrity, than the egotistical prattle of a vain author.

I remain, Sir,

Your's, &c.

M.

London, Aug. 1, 1808.

LETTER XV.—ON THE AFFAIRS OF THE POOR, &c.

[*Concluded from p.* 16.]

On the Misapplication of Parochial Assessments.

IT was upon this statute the coroners founded their claim of thirteen shillings and fourpence for every inquisition, in cases of accidental death, neither would they proceed unless they were paid it. As interest was considered by the coroners as the ruling object, it was found expedient to pass another statute, and impose a fine of forty shillings upon every coroner who neglected or refused to discharge the duties of his office; and a justice of the peace had power to levy the fine in a summary way, upon application to him, and the fact being proved.

To check the inhumanity of jailers, and to encourage the coroners to be active and diligent in their official capacities, it was further enacted, that twenty shillings should be paid for every inquisition taken on the body of a person dying in prison. In such places as paid to the county rate, the coroners were to receive ninepence a mile for their travelling charges; and if they received any other fee or reward, they were to be deemed guilty of extortion. The coroners of cities, boroughs, and exempt jurisdictions, where they did not pay to the county rate, were not entitled by the statute to any fee, excepting the thirteen shillings and fourpence to be levied on the goods and chattels of the murderer, but they might receive any old and accustomed fee which was paid before the passing the statute in the twenty-fifth year of the reign of George the Second: and every coroner convicted of neglect or extortion was to be dismissed from his office.

These acts have been found by experience to be insufficient to restrain coroners' juries from feasting and drinking in certain places; and as this practice was unknown to our unlettered ancestors, in a dark and an ignorant age, custom cannot be pleaded to countenance such an indecent practice, which cannot have better origin than an idle habit of feasting and drinking at every meeting, by

pretending that it is necessary to make something for the house to which they adjourn.

When this expense is incurred in privileged jurisdictions, and taken out of a rate levied on the inhabitants within the franchise, and the mayor is the coroner by virtue of his office, who is one of the principals in levying the rate and auditing the accompts, he cannot plead ignorance of the practice; and if it should not be deemed a species of extortion sufficient to remove him from his office, it is certainly one that must disgrace it, whether the money be paid out of the public fund or demanded of the friends of the deceased.

There is no provision made in the bulky volumes of our statute-books for adjourning to an alehouse, neither can there be any occasion for it, where there is a guildhall suitable for the purpose; but then there could be no plea for eating and drinking, and charging between eight and nine pounds for a supper. When the advanced price of every article is considered, something may be offered in favour of the moderation of the parish officers south of the Thames, as they only expended about four shillings and one penny each for eating, and eight shillings each for drink to promote digestion, and prevent flatulency from the greens.

If such practices are permitted till they become common, it must be expected that they will increase: for, if the officers of one parish are suffered to feast upon every occasion of meeting, the officers of other parishes will think they have a right to do the same. When evils are suffered to take root, they soon shoot, spread, and grow luxuriantly, and it generally requires the strong arm of the law to restrain them.

If it should be said by those who are partakers of the spoils of the public purse, that trifling evils are beneath the notice of the legislature, it may be asked, how any thing can be called trifling when we are unacquainted with its extent? and in what counties and boroughs it hath taken root and is rapidly spreading? It is sufficient that we know to a certainty that the evil exists, and if it be suffered to spread without a check, it will in time become general, and we may easily shew what will be the result. By admitting that eight pounds ten shillings shall become the average sum spent at every coroner's inquest, and that there shall be fifty in a year in each county, then the equation will stand as follows:—$50 \times 40 = 2000 \times 8{,}5 = 17{,}000$ for feasting upon the untimely death of a fellow-creature, without mentioning the coroner's fee and his travelling expenses.

If such an historical anecdote should ever be recorded in our annals, and read by an intelligent foreigner, will he not have reason to ask with surprise, from what country could such a brave and enlightened people have imported the savage custom? Was it from the sable Moors in the parched deserts of Africa? or the Indians in the forests of America? or did they learn it of the inhabitants of the islands in the South Sea? As such practices are a blot upon our national character, and we ought to blush at their being mentioned, surely some person in authority, from among our numerous legislators, will step forward to abolish such abuses, and prevent any further misapplication of the public money, and especially in privileged jurisdictions.

The times require that the parochial fund should be particularly attended to; and more especially, if we reflect on the rising and falling of empires, and see kingdoms tottering to their very base, and are wishing to secure the foundations of our own upon a rock which shall not be shaken.

Though our laws are in many instances excellent, and faithfully administered, yet they are too expensive for an individual to inflict punishment on every aggressor of them; and there are many culprits go unpunished, because there is no public fund to prosecute, nor any one appointed to carry on the prosecution for crimes, as offensive to the laws of God and man as they are to the good of society. This is the reason why our parochial contributions are squandered; why soldiers, sailors, and the worthless part of the lower order of the community are suffered to pass

unnoticed for marrying two or three wives while the first is living, which causes litigations about the settlements of their bastards, and the parishes are burdened to maintain them.

It signifies but little the making this crime a felonious act, if there is such an insurmountable expense for individuals between the crime and the punishment. In the present state of things, they who may have the inclination have not the power to put the complicated machine of the law in motion, and the injured person is left to complain of having been deceived by a villain, and he is suffered to go to a distant village to repeat the same again. When the man is gone, the second wife is sent to her parish; and instances have happened where the children have been hurried away to their separate settlements to be brought up strangers to each other, strangers to father, mother, brother, sister, and all the fraternal, maternal, and filial affections, which so many lament being weakened in a workhouse, are here torn up by the very root. While we are straining at gnats let us no longer swallow camels. Before we begin to graft any more new projects into the old stock, we had much better lop off, by a safe, easy, and expeditious method, the rotten and the decaying branches, that the remaining boughs may shoot once more with renovated vigour, and produce a general, as they have done in many places, local, advantages. If we make use of a little common sense, and adopt laws to counteract evils which are known and are manifest to every one conversant in parochial affairs, we shall soon see what is further wanting, and our savings will be more than sufficient to attempt it.

A BOLD EXPRESSION *of* RACINE *traced to its* SOURCE.

SIR,

DISQUISITIONS in polite literature form a part of your miscellany, and in my opinion a very interesting part: permit me therefore to send you the following morsel of criticism.

Boileau, in his eleventh reflection upon Longinus, opposes a censure of M. de la Motte with regard to an expression of Racine in the tragedy of *Phedre*. The governor of Hippolytus, describing the horrid monster which Neptune had sent to frighten the horses of the young and unfortunate prince, uses this hyperbole:

Le flot qui l'apporta recule epouvanté.

And Boileau endeavours to vindicate it upon the abstract principles of fitness. But it is an expression which may be traced in many authors: Spenser, in his Faëry Queen, has a line very similar. Describing the voyage of *Sir Guyon* and the *Palmer*, he makes them encounter a multitude of sea monsters, after enumerating which he adds,

All these and thousands thousands many more,
And more deformed monsters thousand fold,
With dreadful noise and hollow rumbling roar,
Came rushing in the foamy waves enroll'd,
Which seem'd to fly for fear them to behold.

I do not pretend to say that Boileau ever read Spenser, but merely to point out the similarity of the idea and to shew that it is by no means so bold or hyperbolical as to be entitled to the grave censure of de la Motte.

Virgil also, in his first Georgic, speaking of the prodigies which foreran the death of Cæsar, says,

Sistunt amnes, terræque dehiscunt.

Perhaps the source of both Racine and Spenser may be found in the Psalmist:

"The sea saw it and fled. Jordan was driven back"—*Psalm* cxiv.

Racine's claim to originality therefore is very dubious: and at any rate his license is warranted by other writers. After all, indeed, the image is far less bold than many which are introduced as Boileau observes, with a *pour ainsi dire*, or a *si j'ose ainsi parler*.

While speaking of Racine let me observe, that in the *Frères Ennemis* there is a line remarkably inharmonious, from the frequent recurrence of the letter *s*, which causes a disagreeable sibilation in the enunciation of it. *Jocasta* says, in reply to the reproaches of *Creon*, who tells

her that her counsel has lost every thing,

Il va tout conserver:
Et par ce seul conseil Thebes se peut sauver."

It is remarkable that this very fault is, in another play of Racine's, *Andromaque*, a beauty:

Pour qui sont ces serpens qui siffent sur vos têtes?

Here it produces a very fine instance of imitative harmony.

I remain, &c.

Oxford, Aug. 4. CURIOSUS.

An ORIGINAL RECIPE *for the* RHEUMATISM.

Sir,

YOUR insertion, some months ago, of a case of gout with the mode of cure, induces me to believe that the following recipe for a painful, but common, disorder in this country may not be unacceptable.

Dissolve some mineral alkali in the proportion of about one ounce or little more in a quart of water, and take a wine glass full of the solution three or four times in twenty-four hours, or as often as the stomach will bear it. This will cure in three or four days, and prevent the attack from coming on if taken timely.

Manner of its operation.

The bones being composed of calcareous earth and phosphoric acid, whenever there is any redundancy of this acid in the body it must necessarily occasion pain. The mineral alkali is known to form a very mild compound with the phosphoric acid. If, therefore, a sufficiency of this alkaline substance be taken to saturate the redundant acid, the pain is in a short time imperceptibly removed, and the mild compound formed by their union is carried off by the ordinary evacuations. The solution of the mineral alkali is, of itself, gently aperitive.

Observation.

It has a disagreeable taste, which is removed by impregnating the solution with calcareous gas, commonly called fixed air, which is easily done by such an apparatus of glass vessels as Dr. North invented for the purpose of facilitating the impregnation of water with gas, an account of which is published in the 65th volume of the Philosophical Transactions.

In using this solution, when there arises a feeling somewhat resembling that of hunger, it is an indication that there is enough of it in the stomach at once, and that no more of it should be taken till that feeling goes off.

I have known several persons cured by this process and in the hope of more widely extending its beneficial effects, I offer it for insertion in your Magazine; and remain, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Aug. 9, 1808. MEDICUS.

Are MEN HAPPIER *from the* PLEASURES *and* GRATIFICATIONS *of the* SENSES *than from the* STRICT PRACTICE *of* VIRTUE?

Sir,

TO the liberal readers of your Magazine I would propose the above question: it is worthy the attention of him who can discuss it without prejudice and without fanaticism, and who, closely pursuing his subject, does not confound present with future happiness. I should be very glad to see it examined by some of your intelligent correspondents: but should no one come forward, I will myself take it up in your number for October; till when,

I remain, your's, &c.

Eton, Aug. 3, 1808. SOPHOS.

On a PASSAGE *in* LOCKE'S CONDUCT *of the* HUMAN UNDERSTANDING.

Sir,

LOCKE, in his *Conduct of the Understanding*, says, in the ninth section, speaking of the necessity there is that the mind should be stored with abstract moral ideas, "but, to convince people of what moment it is to their understandings to be furnished with such abstract ideas steady and settled in it, give me leave to ask how any one shall be able to know, whether he be obliged to be just, if he has not established ideas in his mind of obligation and of justice. Since knowledge consists in nothing but the perceived agreement or disagreement of those ideas: and so of all others the like which concern our lives and manners."

Now, Sir, I conceive it may be ob-

jected to this, that the generality of mankind are incited to acts of justice from example and necessity; and not from any enlarged views of the question, or from clear notions in their own minds as to what is, or is not, just. Nay, in many cases, necessity compels persons of contracted ideas, to do certain things which they in fact conceive to be unjust; and they do it because they cannot avoid it. There are, indeed, but few individuals who are capable of such reasoning as is implied in the idea of acting justly from a previous conviction, because they have not time, nor perhaps capacity, to store their minds with abstract moral ideas: but every man (except the professedly profligate) acts according to certain established and common dictates of justice, and certainly very often without having the most distant idea or comprehension as to the abstract quality of justice.

In *effect*, therefore, it is not necessary, for the purposes of general equity that men should be impressed with abstract notions of the fitness and quality of what is just. It may even be doubted whether such knowledge would not dispose the majority of mankind to cavil at and impede the ends of justice. It is not necessary that every man should be a reasoner in political society, where individuals are approximated greatly towards machines; for, in the diversity of human judgments, unanimity would never be obtained, and consequently no great end, to which a concurrence of opinions and means must be directed, could be accomplished. Man is an imitative animal: and caught by the contagion of example, he is frequently good or bad, according to the prevailing character of the society in which he acts: and if by example he is propelled to justice, let us not regret the presence of abstract moral ideas.

I remain, &c.

Richmond, Aug. 5. H. Benson.

Query *respecting a* Play *called* True Patriotism?

Sir,

THE following anecdote is copied from a newspaper, published in the autumn of 1802, (the particular date of which I do not know) and I transcribe it and send it to you in hopes that I may, through the medium of your Magazine, be informed whether the play alluded to is to be had, and where. I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Soho-square, Theatricus.

July 20.

"During the late troubles in Ireland, a set of those bloody marauders who always carry death and destruction in their train, having taken umbrage at a country gentleman of the name of H——, agreed to pillage his house, and put himself and family without exception to the sword; for which purpose they concealed themselves in a small provincial town at a short distance, in which there happened to be a set of strolling players. The night in which this terrible business was to be transacted being arrived, and every engine of death in readiness, to while away the time till a proper hour, they all agreed to go to the play, and to avoid suspicion separated themselves into small parties. At length the piece, which had been newly introduced by one of the strolling Thespians from England, began. It was called *True Patriotism*, and said to have been written by some obscure person in Lincolnshire, and founded upon the landing of the French at Killala. The opposite characters of royalist and republican were pretty strongly drawn, and strict poetic justice done. They heard, saw, and felt, each one for himself, almost to distraction; and after the scene closed, changed their bloody purpose, retired to their own homes, and never more during the troubles, raised a hand to violate the laws. May the author never know an hour of sorrow!"

On the Pronunciation *of the* Roman Tongue.

Sir,

SEVERAL letters have appeared in your late numbers, relative to the pronunciation of the Latin language; and, as in a subject of this remote nature, the more eligible mode of attaining some conclusion is by a pursuit of the controversy, while its interest remains unimpaired, I now venture to trace in writing a few considerations which arose from the animadversion of N. E.

That little or nothing has been determined on this head is, I think, accountable from the ignorance or inattention of mere classic scholars concerning the oral utterance of modern languages: nor is it a matter of surprise, that the efforts of every one are not seconded by the acumen and perspicuity of a Steele* or a Mitford.†

It seems evident that, both as the most analogous with the Latin, and as possessing *fixed* rules of pronunciation, of which our own language is, yet, either insusceptible or unprovided, the French and Italian dialects, with the scattered hints contained in ancient authors, must be our chief assistants for this research; and in the communications, signed Σημα and * * *, this principle appears to have been not overlooked.

I think it obvious, that N. E. has not displayed any knowledge of the former; since, when Σ. supposes that *c* and *g* were delivered formerly before *e* and *i*, in consonance with the practice of the modern Italians, he imagines your correspondent to assert that leciones, macesterium, and urbitcius [thus spelled by sculptors, in lieu of legiones, magesterium, and urbicius] were pronounced with the sound of *s*, and on this misapprehension he grounds a remark, that they would in this case have been written with a Σ.

He is therefore certainly uninformed, that the *c*, so placed, is in the Italian pronounced not as *s*, but as *ch*, in *ch*ariot; and I believe that there is as much similarity between this sound of *c*, and the *g* in "gentleman," (in the courtesy of which character N. E. is somewhat unskilled) as between the respective *hard* sounds of *c* and *k*.

Because, however, "he has yet to discover" what crescentsianus has to do with the question, "let him not burst in ignorance," but in charity, Mr. Editor, be good enough to tell him, that if *t* was melted into *ts* it was presumed that the same analogy might take place in the letters already mentioned, which exists in that individual instance.

Mr. Horne Tooke's "admirable" Diversions of Purley are then quoted by him: in the epithet I perfectly concur: but in the citation that will be presently extracted from that work, it must be my endeavour to shew that that excellence is not infallible. If, says Mr. Tooke, *c* and *g* had been pronounced according to your correspondent's theory, facere would have given the participle fastum not factum, and regere not rectum, but re*tch*tum. Now I wish it understood, that I reverence the *abilities* of Mr. T. [the *opinions* of his latter years are not my present business] "on this side idolatry, as much as any;" but if we confront the preceding affirmation with p. 152 of the second part of the *Diversions*, our eyes will be arrested by the following passage:—"*Wench* is the PAST PARTICIPLE of vincian, to wink: observe that great numbers of words in English are written and pronounced indifferently with *ch* or *k*. As speak, *speech*, break, *breach*, seek, *seech*, dike, *ditch*."

On what authority, therefore, is this privilege denied to the Roman verb; or is Mr. T. to shift his opinion according to the system that he is occupied in maintaining? But N. E. will, perhaps, object the words of Quintilian; and I proceed in due order to investigate them.

"Hoc (*k*) eò non omisi, quod quidam eam quoties *a* sequatur necessariam credunt; cum sit c litera, quæ ad omnes vocales vim suam perferat."

To construe the potential mood I should not have thought difficult. *C can exert the force of k before all the vowels;* and what follows? Is it not plain, that by all the vowels are meant those preceded by *k*; which is not followed either by *e* or *i*, unless in proper names derived from the Greek (Ceraunius, Cimmerius), which were as easily distinguished by the Romans, as we perceive the French phrases with which polite writing or conversation is frequently interspersed. Since Σημα did not deny that the letter in question was uttered with a hard sound before *a*, *o*, and *u*, the opinion of its adaptation to both sounds will be fortified by Quintilian's method of assertion.

Moreover, the passage is not found

* Author of *Prosodia Rationalis.*

† Of an Inquiry respecting *Harmony of Language.*

in Lib. 1, c. 7, but c. 13. We will suppose this to be a typographical error; as it would be improbable to think that N. E. was indebted for it to accidental quotation, or that he anticipated your correspondent's ignorance of the author.

The arguments concerning the ancient discrimination of the long and short sounds of the vowels are corroborated by Rollin, chap. 3, of his *Belles Lettres*, and by Cicero, 3 de ovat. n. 46; whither the learned reader is referred, as I aim at an expedient degree of brevity; but it cannot be too often repeated, that an accurate acquaintance with the pronunciation of the modern tongues will prove the means of suppressing much unnecessary cavil.

If it be argued, that the Greeks translated Roman names by ×, as Lucius, Λευκιος, I reply that they consulted their own organs, having no letter of their alphabet to express *ch* or *sh*. The Latins took equal liberty with words of Grecian derivation. The simple *p*, with a following aspirate, they metamorphosed into *f*; as *Φαμη, Fama; and the aspirate they converted into *s*, as ὑλη, *sylva*. I may consequently conclude, that, in χαλεπα and *cetera*, where the aspirate does not appear in Latin, its place was supplied either by the utterance of *s*, or a sound not dissimilar from it; and *ch* is undoubtedly less so than *k*. The intelligent observer will perceive that no more is contended for than an occasional soft sound, although it is not pretended to be ascertained with the etymological nicety of which modern languages will admit.

By N. E.'s own confession, he had not perused your former numbers, and was therefore unqualified as a judge of the controversy: nor will any *imputation* that has been *put* upon F. R. apply with less propriety to himself. I am for this reason disposed to commend his prudence in "saying nothing about" the vowels; and am only inclined to lament that, by not extending the same caution to the former part of his letter, he indulged himself in a confidence of assertion that farther consideration may induce him to abate, and gave occasion to the present observations from

London, Aug. 1808. Αλλοπροσαλλος.

SECOND LETTER *of* PAUL PLAINTIVE, *shewing his* WARS *with* AUTHORS *and* BOOKSELLERS.

Sir,

I WAS highly delighted when I saw my letter in your last number. You have the soul of an author, Mr. Editor, I am sure: and you can imagine what are the raptures of an author when he is allowed to appeal to the public. I shall always respect and venerate you, even though I should never know you better than I do now. But to proceed.

As I told you I resolved to write and publish a book, and the first part of which resolve was easily performed. I chose for my *debut* a striking subject. I need not tell you, Sir, how much depends upon that: I mean upon writing what is called by the modern *Cerberi* of authors a *marketable production*. Oh! ye shades of Homer and Virgil, of Plato, Socrates, and Tully, if thou art conscious of what passeth in these nether regions, look down with an eye of pity upon the authors of the nineteenth century. Ye never knew what it is to write at so much per sheet, with deductions for paste and scissar work: ye never knew what it is to be beset with printers' devils at breakfast, yelling out for copy; to wire-draw your brains into essays, tales, and criticisms: to be *cut up* in reviews, and afterwards *cut down* in pocket: ye lived in a happy age, and wrote what you liked, and not what was wanted: but, oh! if the ghost of PAUL PLAINTIVE should ever mingle with thy celestial shades, he will

> "a tale unfold, whose lightest word
> will harrow up thy souls!"
>
> * * * * * *
>
> "But his eternal blazon must not be
> To ears of flesh and blood."

I commenced my career, Sir, in criticism, and chose for the object of it, one of the greatest names of the last century. I wrote my strictures with calmness, and did not censure without illustration of my censure. I was highly delighted with my per-

* See Foster on Accent and Quantity, 8vo. p. 99, &c.

formance, and looked forward to immortal honours. But, alas! what are the hopes of man! I finished my work, and offered it to a bookseller: it was *declined*. I dare say you know the import of that word. If ever you have been an unsuccessful author, you doubtless know what it is to receive a polite note from a bookseller, stating that the multiplicity of present concerns, or the dearness of paper, or the continental war, or something else, prevents him from having the pleasure of accepting your MS. Alas! I have had as many such letters as would sell by the pound for several shillings.

This first refusal did not to be sure much deject me. I was yet ignorant in the arcana of authorship. I verily thought the bookseller spoke truth! I therefore tried another, and another; but all in vain: and I sat down, in self-glory much abated, with my manuscript before me, and wondering by what fatality men could be so blinded to their own interests as to refuse a work, which, if published, must cover them with profit, and me with honour.

During this interval I read the dear book over and over again, and was more and more enraptured with its beauties. It was impossible I could think of letting such a paragon of excellence remain unknown to the world: and since I could not publish for profit, I resolved to do it for fame. I chose indeed an humble vehicle for the herald of my celebrity: but I imagined I was destined to confer, not to receive honour. My immortal criticisms appeared, in detached portions, in the columns of a newspaper!

They had merit or novelty enough about them to attract several replications, some of which were inserted, and some were put into my hands in manuscript. When the whole of my strictures had appeared, I was advised to venture upon a republication of them in the form of a pamphlet. I did so. Ah! doleful day! It is high treason against the kingdom and government of booksellers for an authar to publish for himself, and they take care to punish the culprit.

My book was published: and at the same moment I quitted England, for I was then in a dignified situation with a dignified personage. While abroad, the praise of the reviewers was wafted over to me, for they *did praise*, and I resolved to set up the trade of an author, with no other stock in trade than my brains. I renounced my post, and returned to England in all the glorious poverty of literature.

Now methought I'm like another Johnson, or Goldsmith, or Savage. I longed to sleep on a bulk, or walk the streets all night, for want of a lodging: to live upon fourpence a day: to sign a letter to a bookseller *impransus*; or to reject with indignation a pair of shoes that I should find outside my chamber-door.

But these were the vivid anticipations of fancy, and when my adverse fortune realised them I groaned and grumbled like a common man. When I had nothing but potatoes for dinner, I longed for a mutton chop: when one pair of breeches were worn out, I wished for another: and I never sat upon my three-legged stool without regretting the want of my arm-chair. The glorious examples of my predecessors in poverty faded away before the pressure of present evils, and I was willing to leave them in the undisturbed possession of their claims to precedence in misery.

During this state of gloomy vacancy, I tried every bookseller in various manners: always changing my mode of attack: sometimes I had a volume of miscellanies to dispose of: sometimes I proposed a translation from the French; and sometimes a compilation from the English. But it was all in vain: their usual answer was returned.

I now began to despair, and feared that all my visions of literary distinction were to fade, and that I must submit forthwith to the inglorious drudgery of an office. But just at this very time I happened to see, on the wrapper of the life of a notorious pickpocket, my first-born child advertised; for you must know, that I had empowered the printer of it, to sell the copies in hand to any bookseller, to reimburse himself. Now I was once more elate. This man, said I, will surely buy any thing else from the same pen: he has the evidence of my genius in his hands, and

cannot be such a Goth as to *decline my MS.*

I wrote to him, and proposed a novel, which he finally accepted. Now I was an author indeed! The novel was finished, and after that I got from the same bookseller a translation from the French. Do you know, Sir, that I then absolutely kept an amanuensis!

But how frail is man's happiness; and most of all, an author's! When the translation was done, I got nothing else: and so I was forced to discharge my amanuensis, and return to the solitary dignity of an idle author. This lasted longer than I wished, and I had recourse again to all my stratagems to entice some good-natured bookseller into a bargain with me.

Among others I happened to write to one who has since arrived at city honours. He was then a plain *Mister*, but now he is no such thing. I called upon him by appointment. It would have rejoiced you to see him issue from his counting-house into his little shop: his majestic figure had not room to display itself: he was like an elephant in a drawing-room.

He courteously invited me to meet him that evening at his country-house. I went, and supped upon roasted potatoes: it was a Pythagorean meal washed down with good English porter.

This literary purveyor employed me upon certain regions of his extensive dominions, and we went on pretty well together till he cheated me of twenty pounds, and then I thought it was time to give him up. I did not get rid of him, however, till I had received a few epistles from him, displaying his native arrogance and acquired insolence.

What did I do next? Alas! I had another interregnum of prosperity, till at length I wrote another novel. In this I attempted to astonish the world by daring novelties and free wit: but the world seemed very careless about what I wrote, and my work passed quietly along into the gloomy stream of oblivion. *Requiescat in pacem!*

At this period I was amazingly occupied: I was positively besieged with devils: and you must know that I am a very useful hand to a bookseller, for I can turn my pen to any thing, and quickly too: and hence it happened that I was, at the same time, writing lives, criticisms, and novels, compiling anecdotes of a pursuit I did not understand, and contributing largely to a periodical publication.

But this was the decline of my literary glory: these multifarious occupations were not succeeded by new ones, and my butcher's and baker's bills grew to an alarming length. Here, alas! I found my eloquence and my genius of no use: polished periods and elevated language were poured in vain into the unwilling ears of hard-hearted creditors: if I strove to awaken their sympathy by pathos, they coolly answered *my bill*; if I wrote them a note full of wit and elegance, they replied *my bill*; and if I made promises, they still cried *my bill*. Not Othello roared louder for his handkerchief than these harpies for their bill. But, Mr. Editor, you know perfectly well that authors cannot coin money; and if they had no respect to genius, why genius must respect itself; so, as they were so uncivil as to insist upon their money, I quietly left the place, and did not trouble them any more about the matter.

How I lived afterwards I do not wish to remember; and I was scarcely sorry when I received a gentle tap on my shoulder in Fleet-street one day, and a gentleman begged me to accompany him to—hush! I must not reveal the secrets of my prison-house. Suffice it to say, that I now enjoy a very pleasant country residence, in a very numerous society; and besides that, I have the honour of belonging *to his Majesty's Fleet.*

Perhaps you may hear from me again: for the present I subscribe myself,

Your brother,

Over the Water, PAUL PLAINTIVE.
Aug. 4, 1808.

THE CONTEMPLATIST.—No. X.

Who by repentance is not satisfied,
Is nor of heaven nor earth:
By penitence the Eternal's wrath's appeas'd.
SHAKSPEARE.

I WAS deeply moved by the narrative in my last; and while I pitied the misfortunes of JULIA, I could scarcely condemn the errors

which led to them. All vice and all virtue are relative. He that has resisted no temptation, has no right to boast of his purity; and he that has yielded to strong impelling circumstances, may hope for leniency in the judgments of his fellow creatures.

There are some crimes which, not ending in themselves, seem to call for louder reprehension in proportion to the greater evil which they generate. Among these are seduction, and its consequence, the violation of female honor. At a period like the present, when women seem to glory in the publicity of their infamy, it may not be useless to offer some observations upon these subjects, and they will very properly serve as a sequel to my last paper.

Seduction is twofold; that of the married, and that of the single woman; and I know not that ingenuity can easily decide which is the most enormous in its criminality.

The seduction of a married woman seems to be attended by evils of a more complex nature: a greater number of persons may be incidentally involved in its consequences; and the circumstances under which the seducer effects his schemes are of a complexion more decidedly infamous.

When *Hermione* defends herself from the charges of *Leontes*, she exclaims with dignity and truth,

> " For life, I prize it
> As I weigh grief, which I would spare: *for honor,*
> *'Tis a derivative from me to, mine,*
> And only that I stand for."

The married woman, when she stains her conjugal faith, casts a shade of opprobrium and disgrace upon innocent beings; upon beings committed by nature to her protection, and whom the strongest ties of affection bind her to protect and love.

It has been sometimes weakly urged, that the irregular conduct of a husband is a palliative for the transgressions of the wife. To this it may be simply replied, that vice is always wrong: and that to urge the plea of example for the commission of crimes is to open the door to universal immorality: for where is the crime that has not its perpetrators? and who has passed through life so innoxiously as not to wish sometimes to enforce the law of retaliation? To bear injuries meekly is one of the constant admonitions of holy writ: and He, who on earth was all perfection, set an illustrious example of patient suffering. We intuitively admire, indeed, any instance of great forbearance: and in this intuitive admiration the language of nature speaks plainly out. When Philip of Macedon enquired of Democharés, the Athenian ambassador, what he could do to please the people of Athens, he replied, " Hang yourself." Had Philip sacrificed the brutal cynic on the spot, we should scarcely have blamed him: but when he mildly dismissed the snarling Athenian, and bade him ask his countrymen who was the most praiseworthy, the giver of such language or the patient receiver of it, we immediately admire the greatness of his mind.

There cannot exist a more fatal opinion than that which supposes the commission of a crime is a palliation of its commission in another. The woman who is, unhappily, wedded to a dissolute or unfeeling husband, should recollect that in this life we are appointed to endure more or less of suffering: and that while we respect and venerate the virtue that blooms amid contending sorrows, we abhor and execrate the vice which springs up in the rank soil of resentment: and let her also recollect, that by the exemplary piety and morality of her own conduct, she may ultimately reclaim that of her husband's: and finally, that though the reward of virtue may not be given in the temporal blessings of this life, it will assuredly produce a blissful one in the next.

The woman who is tempted to debase herself by illicit gratification should pause a moment, and form a deliberate idea of the step she is about to take. Has her husband been affectionate, faithful, and upright in his conduct towards her? What a return! Common gratitude would demand more. Has he fixed all his happiness upon her, built his fondest hopes of worldly comfort upon her presence and her conduct? Does he acknowledge no other mo-

tive to action than to provide for her delight, ask no other monitor than her counsel, seek no other reward than her praises? Oh! pause, and reflect what an eternal ravage thou art about to commit in the fair region of domestic happiness, and how ill the rank pleasures of corrupt embraces will repay you for the paradise you quit. Look upon the man you would plunge into remediless anguish! Recall his tender protestations, his love, his virtues, and forsake them if thou canst. Or hast thou children? Think of them: think what they have a right to demand at thy hands, and tremble while you but meditate upon the thought of sending them forth into the world with the foul blot of infamy upon their innocent heads! Think that for the indulgence of criminal and dishonest passions you debase your own issue, become worse than the fiercest beast of prey by injuring your offspring, and that you compel your children to blush at the mention of their mother's name. Oh! reverence yourself, and sink not into the grave dishonoured, unrespected, unwept, untended by the heart, eye, and hand of filial love.

I never could see the justice of that law which makes all the penalty, in the cases of adultery, to fall upon the man: not that I would have him escape, but that I would make his guilty partner in pleasure his partner in punishment. Women are rational beings, and as such ought to be made responsible for their own chastity; in violating it they know what they do, and they also do it wilfully. Common equity, therefore, demands that they should be amenable to the infliction of penal laws. It may be remarked, that almost every nation of antiquity adjudged punishment to both the man and woman in case of adultery. Under Constantius and Constans they were either burnt, or sewed in sacks and thrown into the sea. Under Leo and Marcian the penalty was different; and under Theodosius, women convicted of this crime were punished in a very singular manner, the narration of which, however, I do not think it necessary to produce.

Nor have modern nations neglected methods of punishing a crime so fraught with mischief to civil society: and at this day, if a woman in Turkey commit adultery, she is tied in a sack and thrown into the sea, and her lover is beheaded.

I scarcely wish to propose penalties so sanguinary: but I am most solemnly of opinion, that justice and morality alike demand that the adultress should not escape unpunished.

There are other evils also attendant upon adultery, which however need not be insisted on here: I mean the filiation of children and the various civil rights and immunities which result from it.

But, if we condemn the tempted, what shall we say of the tempter? What shall we say of the man who not only violates female honour, but violates that honour which belongs to another? Who adds treachery to guilt, and descends to the lowest ebb of human iniquity by wearing the smiles of friendship on his face, and carrying the malice of villainy in his heart? In almost every case, the seducer of a married woman must be upon terms of intimacy, and more than common intimacy, with the husband, or he cannot carry on his machinations. Is it then possible to conceive any situation more wicked, more self-debasing, more abhorred, than this? He crosses the threshold of his friend's door, he is received with hospitality and candour, he is trusted with freedom and confidence: and yet, beneath the very eyes of his friend, he is secretly plotting to destroy him and to bring his name to public disgrace, and his happiness to private ruin. But to effect all this how must he proceed? He must lie, dissemble, lurk about for opportunities like a thief, start from detection like a guilty wretch, and

Oh! it is wonderful that a being, so acting, does not start back from himself with horror, and despise his own shadow, which proclaims the existence of one whom it would be profanity to call a man. Compared to him, the highwayman is innocent: and the common murderer even stands far above him, for he opposes his own existence against the existence of his victim, and does not first lull him into security by hypocrisy and lies. The meanest beggar that

crawls the earth may spurn him with conscious superiority, and with the indignant pride of honest poverty disdain his presence. I cannot, by language, aggravate the enormity of his guilt, and I therefore quit the contemplation of it.

It will perhaps be thought that I have thus decided the question, which I regarded as ambiguous in the commencement of this paper; and, indeed, I believe it will be found upon the most accurate reflection, that the evils attendant upon the seduction of a married woman are greater in themselves and more complicated in their consequences, than those which result from the criminal triumph over unwedded honour and virtue. Yet, let it not be supposed that I regard with indifference an action which has in every age been marked with opprobrium. The seduction of virgin innocence is a subject upon which more can be said that arrests the passions than upon the other: and hence poetry and eloquence have not spared their powers to paint the cruelty of the action. We appeal to the judgment and the reason in the latter; but in the former we arouse the feelings.

Few topics, indeed, are more susceptible of exaggeratory declamation than this. We bring before our mind the modest, timid virgin, shrinking even in idea from the contemplation of vice: we behold her in the calm peace of innocence, the charm of society, the delight of her friends, the proud honor of her parents and kindred: we see her mind imbued with precepts of morality and religion, and her manners and discourse refined by the cares of education: and we anticipate what lovely fruit this early cultivation, this pregnant soil in all that is virtuous, might have produced. The transition from this scene of peace and quiet, to the gloomy turbulence and moral degradation of vice, is powerful: and there is no heart so callous that is not moved at such a picture skilfully drawn. We contrast past splendour with present abasement: and, like the traveller who sighs over the ruins of Babylon or Rome, we deplore the fallen relicks of innocence and virtue. But, to the ravager of this fabric let me address myself.

What are your hopes, what are your incitements? Your hopes are infamous, your incitements are bestial. You have none of the common palliatives of wickedness to plead. You are not tempted, for you are the tempter: no necessity impels you, for your natural and artificial desires may be gratified at a cheaper rate than the perdition of an innocent girl's happiness and reputation. Your proceedings, therefore, are the cool, malignant ones of a bad and corrupted heart: you resemble the ferocious hordes of conquering barbarians, who first pillage and then massacre: but your massacre is incomparably more tremendous, for it is of the soul, not of the body: your victim is still left a creature of wretchedness in this life, and ultimately, perhaps, without hope in the next. Let this thought appal you: and let the feelings of humanity, if you have them, soften you.

Surely more than common cruelty must possess the bosom of a seducer. Love in its utmost fervour, confidence that knows no suspicion, are felt towards you by the hapless object of your arts: this love you feign to return, this confidence you deceive with promises. That your love is feigned, admits of no dispute: for true love honors its object: but what is debased by moral turpitude can never be regarded with veneration. That you delude by artifices is also equally indisputable; for where is the unexperienced girl, that would yield to solicitation with the assured conviction that it was to gratify only momentary passion, and that she was finally to be deserted? No: marriage, that honourable compost which is laid over the wounds of diseased reputation, is the glittering bait; and her credulous ears are filled with the jargon of anticipating joys, which, in a few days, or hours perhaps, shall be sanctified by religious ceremonies. Her fears are thus done away: she commits her temporal welfare to the being who smiles only to betray, and who leads her with designed iniquity from a path to which she can never, never return!

Man of guilt! when your intemperate passions burn hotly, and your eyes are cast around to meet some fit receptacle for them, turn away, I be-

seech you, from the fair region of innocence and peace! Enter not its holy precincts with premeditated ruin and devastation! Dash not the smile of virtue from the cheek of youth: fill not the heart of piety and truth with corruption and vice: pluck not the fair rose from the stem on which it grew, and having worn the bauble for a while leave it on the earth to perish. Think of a father's and a mother's agonies when they behold their poor child dishonoured, lost, debased: think of your victim, and what unimaginable evils may flow from thy accursed act. Remember, too, there is a state of retribution; a state, where no collusion will serve: no sophistry can palliate: a state, where thy crimes will stand in naked truth against thee, and their punishment will be awarded with righteous judgment.

And let not the voice of censure be raised against me, if I venture to call for mercy and compassion, for mildness and forbearance towards the guilty. I know not by what arts of satisfaction those parents can lull their feelings who have never practised forgiveness; or how they acquit themselves of the after crimes of their children, when they shut the only door against their repentance which humanity and nature demand should be open. Surely they who have acted thus (and they are numerous) must turn pale and tremble as they exclaim "FORGIVE US OUR SINS, AS WE FORGIVE THOSE WHO HAVE TRESPASSED AGAINST US," for they implore a heavy retribution of justice. Something may be pleaded in behalf of parental anger: but that anger which knows no mitigation, and which shuts the heart against the cries of mercy, is the enmity of a demon, not the weakness of a christian. To the proud father who can forgive no crime, and to the unnatural mother who prides herself upon untempted chastity, and turns away from her fallen but repentant daughter, I would address myself in the language of Shakspeare:

Alas! alas!
Why, all the souls that were, were forfeit once,
And HE that might the vantage best have took,
Found out the remedy; How would you be,
If he, which is the top of judgment, should
But judge you as you are? O! think on that;
And mercy then will breathe within your lips
Like man new made!

Nay, I will go farther. It well becomes a parent to seek after the child that has strayed: not merely to wait and permit her return, but to arrest her progress in error, and with the least possible delay, strive to win her from the paths of vice. This is a duty incumbent upon man to man: but how much more so from parents to their offspring.

As a subject not unconnected with what has been said above, let me interpose a shield between the confirmed prostitute and the world's censure. I wish not to be regarded as the advocate for a state, which, however necessary philosophers and politicians may deem it, the moralist cannot but condemn: but I would, if possible, awaken sentiments of pity and commiseration instead of contempt, insult, and scorn. There is injustice and cruelty in this. There is injustice, because we know not how far they have offended, from what cause they offended, or how sincerely they may, in their hearts, repent: and there is cruelty, because it is oppressing those who have no power to resist, nor any advocate to intercede; for who willingly appears as the champion of avowed infamy?

I cannot but think that the state of prostitution is rendered more desperate by the general cry of horror that is raised against it; as men grow furious from despair, and often plunge into the depths of iniquity, because access even to the confines of respectability and esteem are denied to them. Of those poor wretches who gain a scanty livelihood by the worst debasement, it is not unjust to believe that the greater part would have returned to virtuous society, had there existed means. But no: an unhappy female, having forfeited her honor, is immediately driven forth to a wide and pitiless world, without the possibility of expiating her crime by future amendment. There is surely in this more of ferocity, than civilised society warrants. By what superiority of purity we are entitled to scorn her

who repents, it would be difficult to shew: and, as christians, let us never forget that the Father of all Mercies rejoices in one who turneth from his wickedness!

But their sorrows are enough, without our contumely. The greatest misery may be hid in smiles: and the prostitute, who purchases her bed and food and cloathing by her smiles, must not therefore be judged happy. Oh! if the sternest heart that looks in scorn upon them, could view what domestic wretchedness they suffer, could see them in their solitude, forlorn, pinched with cold, smitten with hunger, and pining with disease; they would forget their errors and commiserate their miseries. I do not wish to confound the distinctions of vice and virtue; but I would not aggravate what is already wretched, nor add poignancy to what is already acute. The negative virtue of forbearance is within the reach of every one; and where we do not choose to stretch forth a hand to assist, we may at least refrain from multiplying anguish.—Let us remember what they once were; let us imagine under what circumstances they may have fallen; and let us never forget, that the stability of untried virtue gives us no authority to condemn without mercy those who have yielded.

Annotations *on the* Text *of* Shakspeare.
No. IV.

King John.
Act III.—Sc. IV.

And now will canker sorrow eat my bud,
And chase the native beauty from his cheek.

Ariosto has a parallel image on the death of Zerbino.—*Orlando Furioso*, C. 24. St. 80.

Pick matter of revolt
Out of the bloody fingers' ends of John.

From the murder that has embrued his hands in the blood of his nephew, a pretence for revolt can be deduced with justice. Such amusement as Mr. Seymour's explanation can afford him, the reader shall not be denied. "*Every part* of this royal murderer, from the features of his face to his FINGER'S ENDS, will become hateful to the people, and excite revolt!!!"

Richard II.

Report of fashions in proud Italy;
Whose manners still, our tardy apish nation,
Limps after in base imitation.

"Italy, in our author's time, gave the ton of fashion, as France does now, to all Europe."——Davies' *Dram. Misc. vol.* I. *p.* 134.

This is undoubtedly true; and the imitation extended to literary taste. Notwithstanding the assertion of Dr. Johnson, and the caution of Bishop Hurd*, in "fastening" any imitation on our author, those passages which are palpably coincident, must certainly be accounted as such, whether he borrowed them from the original languages, or from translations extant in his time. It has been attempted to produce, neither idly nor ostentatiously, the Italian and other quotations, in the progress of these comments.

King Henry IV.—Part I.
Act I.—Sc. I.

Which makes him prune *himself, and bristle up*
The crest of youth against your dignity.

The same phrase occurs in Love's Labour Lost, where Biron says,

When shall you see me write a thing in rhyme
Or groan for Joan? or spend a minute's time
In pruning *me?*

Sc. II.

Thou hast forgotten to demand that truly what thou wouldst truly know.

Falstaff, having inquired the time of day, is informed by the Prince, that, although past midnight, and consequently morning, it could not be as yet termed *day*. He accordingly soon after bids Poins "good morrow, sweet lad."

Oh thou hast damnable iteration!

That is, repartee, in modern idiom.

Act II.—Sc. IV.

Didst thou never see Titan kiss a dish of butter? Pitiful hearted Titan, that

---

* Discourse IV. on the Marks of Imitation.

melted at the sweet tale of the sun? If thou didst, then behold that compound.

Falstaff. *You rogue, there's lime in this sack too; there is nothing but roguery to be found in villainous man.*

Titan is here allegorically used for *heat*; and the prince terms the jolly knight a compound of this attribute and of greasy fat, which is melting with fatigue. To this Falstaff rejoins that imperfection is inherent in every substance; as the sack is polluted with lime, and his own body agitated by violent motion.

Act V. Sc. I.

What! thou owest Heaven a death.

Πεπρωμενος αιτη is a Homeric expression. Also in the Fragments of Alexis, Ψυξει σ' ο δεικνυντα πεπρωμενον χρονον.

Act V.—Sc. I.

All the budding honors on thy crest
I'll crop, to make a garland for my head.

There is considerable resemblance in a passage of Metastasio's Alessandro, A. 1. S. 2.

"E spera un giorna
D' invogliar quegli allori alle tue chiome."

When that this body did contain a spirit
A kingdom for it was too small a bound,
And now two paces of the vilest earth
Is room enough.

To his example from Ovid, Dr. Johnson might have added another from that author, Metam. 5. 135.—on the death of Dorylus, where the turn of expression is more similar.

—"Hoc quod premis, inquit, habeto
De tot agris, terræ."

Embowelled *will I see thee by and by.*

The commentators on Milton have disputed the meaning of this word in some lines applied by that poet to the explosion of fire-arms.

"Whose roar
Embowell'd with outrageous noise, the air
And all her entrails tore." *

The sense evidently is *to exenterate*; as in Lucan, Phars. 7. 475.

Tunc stridulus aer
Ebusus Lituis.

But in the following verse of Spenser, F. Q. 3. 7. 29. it may either signify thus, or *to swallow.*

"After having him embowelled
To fill his hellish gorge."

King Henry IV.—Part II.
Act I.—Sc. I.

And doth enlarge his rising *with the blood*
Of fair King Richard, scrap'd from Pomfret stones.

Increases the number of his adherents, under pretence of avenging the death of the late king.

Act II.—Sc. IV.

Answer, thou dead elm, answer.

Perhaps, dead at *top*; a blockhead. See an anecdote of Swift, in Mr Croft's Life of Young, printed in Johnson's Lives of the Poets.

Breeds no bate with telling of discreet stories.

Tales of such a nature as cannot be revealed with prudence.

Act IV.—Sc. I.

And present execution of our wills
To us and to our purposes confin'd.

We still talk of *binding* by an agreement; and there is therefore no absolute necessity for introducing *sign'd*, although more consonant with modern taste.

Act IV.—Sc. IV.

Th' incessant care and labor of his mind
Hath wrought the mure that should confine it in
So thin, that life looks through, and will break out.

In some verses of Dryden's Absalom and Achitophel, applied to the Duke of Buckingham [*Zimri*], there is a strong resemblance to these lines:

"A fiery soul, that, working out its way,
Fretted the pigmy's body to decay,
And o'erinform'd the tenement of clay."

King Henry V.
Act I.—Sc. I.

Grew like the summer grass, fastest by night
Unseen, yet crescive in his faculty,

According to Thornton's Philosophy of Medicine, Vol. III. p. 184. the growth arising from nutrition takes place in a greater degree during the night than at any other time.

* Steel's Elements of Punctuation, p. 137.

Act III.—Sc. I.

Now set the teeth;
Hold hard the breath, and bend up every spirit.

From Tyrtæus:

Ἀλλά τις ἐυδικέας μενέτω ποσὶν ἀμφοτέροισιν,
Στηριχθεὶς ἐπὶ γῆς, χείλος ὀδοῦσι δακών.

Act III.—Sc. II.

Be merciful, great Duke, to men of mould.

Men of vulgar abilities, not those

Quos arte benignâ
Et meliore luto finxit præcordia Titan.

This phrase is also copied by Shakspeare in Much Ado about Nothing; and B. Jonson has servilely translated it in *Catiline*.

Act IV.—Sc. VII.

We'll *cut the throats of those we have.*

This should be altered to *we've*, in order to agree with the assertion of Fluellen.

Act V.—Sc. I.

I eat, and eat, I swear.

Transpose the conjunction, after *eat*, which should be preceded by *I*.

My condition is not smooth.

"My temper," says Mr. Steevens; probably, it signifies *manners*.

King Henry VI.—Part I.

Act III.—Sc. V.

Here dies the dusky torch of Mortimer,
Chok'd with ambition of the meaner sort.

Because unsuccessful.

Thou art my heir; the rest I wish thee gather.

I wish you to infer, how you are consequently to act.

Act IV.—Sc. VI.

Twice, my father, twice am I thy son.

Voltaire did not disdain to borrow from the poet he abus'd. We read, in the second Henriade, on a father saving the life of his son,

——— Trompant la barbarie
Une second fois il lui donna la vie.

Act V.

Joan. *No*, misconceived!

"Ye unnatural, misbegotten wretches;" in reply to their insinuations on her *own* birth.

Part II.

Act IV.—Sc. III.

These hands are free from guiltless blood-shedding.

Shedding of guiltless blood: an inverted construction.

Act IV.—Sc. V.

And thither will I send you, Matthew Gough.

This Matthew Gough is mentioned in Duclos' Histoire de Louis XI. as commander of 14,000 French and 8000 English against the Swiss. The French writer terms him Mathieu God, ou *Matago:* as John Hawkesworth was converted into *Giovanni Auguto*, and the Scotch name of Fordyce into *Forthis*.

Part III.

Act II.—Sc. V.

O boy! thy father gave thee life too soon,
And hath bereft thee of thy life too late.

Had the son been born at a later period, the battle wherein he fell would have been past by the time he had attained his present years. His father adds, that his loss would have been more supportable in infancy or at an earlier period, than in his present bloom of youth.

King Richard III.

Act I.—Sc. II.

Vouchsafe, diffus'd *infection of a man.*

One that has been fatal to man; in the sense of the French word *répandu*. Dr. Johnson says of the poet Garth, that he "*communicated* himself through a wide extent of acquaintance."

Act II.—Sc. I.

Look I so pale, Lord Dorset, as the rest.

Mr. Southey has used this idea with effect, in the second book of Thalaba.

Act III.—Sc. VII.

The right idea of your father.

Mr. Seymour observes that there is no mention, either historical or traditional, of the Duke of York's being deformed, as Gloster is represented to be. The fact is, that, although Shakspeare complied with vulgar prejudice in the latter case, we may regard the silence of historians as an authentic proof of Mr. Walpole's *doubts* being perfectly rational.

Act V.—Sc. IV.

Daring an opposite to every danger!

Richard so desperately plunges into the hottest of the fight, that an adversary, in order to engage him, is compelled to follow the example.—Of this explanation the *Revisal* "*had a glimpse, but could not keep it.*"

ERRATUM in No. I.

In the comment on *sustaining* garments, insert a period after *wreck*.

[*To be continued.*]

On the CIRCUMNAVIGATION *of* BRITAIN *by the* ROMANS.

Sir,

I HAVE seen, in several of the public journals, an account of the discovery of a human skeleton in the island of Benbecula, between North and South Uist. This skeleton was under a bank of sand, and in a state of high preservation. It was in a sitting posture, holding in its right hand the handle of a sword; and, on digging a little deeper, there were discovered the fragments of a Roman urn, with a few pieces of silver coinage, bearing a strong resemblance to those of the emperor Servius. It is generally supposed this must be the skeleton of a Roman; but because Agricola, in his expedition into Scotland did not penetrate beyond the Grampian Hills, nor any one after him, it is asked, In what manner could the person have been buried in Benbecula?

Perhaps the difficulty may be solved, when we recollect that the Roman fleet which accompanied Agricola sailed, by his command, completely round Great Britain, and that it was then first known to be an island.—Tacitus mentions this in his VITA AGRICOLÆ. *Ibi**, *acceptis obsidibus, præfecto classis circumvehi Britanniam præcipit.* c. XXXVIII. May it not therefore have happened that one of the crews of these vessels died, and was buried in the island already mentioned. This is explaining the difficulty without conjectural resource to the vestiges of a Roman encampment in Inverness-shire.

I remain, Sir, &c.

Bath, Aug. 7, 1808. X. Y.

* After the victory over Galgacus.

Some REFLECTIONS *on* ORGANISED BODIES, *and their* VARIOUS PROPERTIES.

Sir,

LIFE, in the opinion of the physiologist, who seeks to penetrate the cause of it, is only the movement of an organised body.

To live, we must be organised: that is, formed of an aggregate of parts more or less dependent on each other, which have the property of attracting exterior bodies, interposing them between their molecules, and giving them an arrangement different to that which the laws of chemical affinity require. This property is that of nutrition.

Organ is a part of a living body, having a disposition to execute one of the modes of action, in the aggregate of which consists life. These actions, peculiar to such or such a part, are called functions.

The fewer different functions which a living body has to exercise, the more simple is its organization.

This general rule seems liable, however, to exceptions; for, of many animals the organisation appears at first sight to be more simple than that of a great number of vegetables. The fresh-water polypus, for instance, in which neither nerve, vessel, nor muscles are to be discovered, has an organization apparently more simple than that of many vegetables which excite our admiration by the elegance of their forms and the brilliancy of their colours.

But though the polypus does not give, by chemical analysis, a produce more complicated than vegetables, yet analogy teaches us to believe that the simplicity of its organisation is a false appearance, the source of which is in the imperfection of our knowledge. To feel, to move, to nourish, and to separate the most subtle poisons that are known*, must surely

* Of all animals hitherto known, it appears there are none whose venom is so powerful and so active as that of the polypus. Those worms which appear in the water, it instantaneously deprives of life, however irritable or difficult of extinction it may be: so great is the energy and force of the poison that introduces itself by the pores of the worm!

require an internal arrangement of parts more complicated than a vegetable, which evinces no sign of sensibility, nor any power of loco-motion.

From the vegetable which merely nourishes and reproduces itself, to the intelligent being who observes it, there is an infinite variety of gradations in the organisation of existing beings; and in comparing the different organised bodies with each other, the use of the functions which they perform will be discovered in the organisation of each of them.

If the use of certain parts of many organised bodies be unknown to us, it is for want of having sufficiently compared the functions of those where they exist with those where they are not to be found: and if, on the contrary, many organised bodies exercise functions the cause of which we cannot perceive in their organisation, it is because their internal arrangement escapes our limited knowledge.

He who reigns over all other beings by his intellectual functions, is gifted with organs, which cannot be found in any other, at least not perfectly similar. No animal, among those of the *encephalous* class, has the upper part of the skull so voluminous as that of man; and it may be observed constantly to diminish in size in proportion as the intelligence of animals becomes more and more circumscribed. Why may it not be hence inferred, that this part executes among them those functions which they alone enjoy in such a high degree? I could multiply examples; but the one which I have just related is the most striking which the history of animal organisation offers.

The most essential analogical characteristics of different living bodies are derived from their internal organisation.

Desfontaines has demonstrated that this fact, already known with regard to animals, is equally found in vegetables; for he observes, that the internal structure of the *monocotyledons* was invariably different from that of the *decotyledons*.

I will mention one more general axiom.

The more the organisation is simple, so much the less are the parts of the organised body dependant on each other. They supply more easily one another in proportion as their organisation is analogous.

The being whose distinct parts all perform the same functions, as the polypus for instance, who feels, moves, and nourishes itself in all its parts, does not suffer when any single one is separated from it.

If these observations are accepted, I shall probably trouble you with a continuation of them for some of your ensuing numbers; and remain, Sir,

Your constant reader.

Ilchester, C. G. D.
July, 29, 1808.

The Literary *and* Moral Character *of* D'Alembert.

THE principal character of his mind is precision and clearness: to the study of geometry he brought considerable talent, and much facility of comprehension: this facility left him time for cultivating other branches of literature with success. His style has more energy than warmth, more precision than fancy, more dignity than grace: it is clear and succinct, easy to understand, and though sometimes a little dry, yet never violated by bad taste.

Devoted to study and solitude until his five and twentieth year, he entered into the world at a late period, and at no time mingled much with it; he never learned to conform himself servilely to its usages and language, and perhaps indeed he cherished the minute vanity of despising it. He was never, however, rude or unpolished in his manners, for his mind was elevated and pure; but he was sometimes what may be called *uncivil* from inattention or from ignorance. The basis of his character was freedom and a manly but never offensive expression of truth. He was impatient and irritable to a great degree: whatever opposed or hurt him, invariably made a strong impression, over which he was not master, but which evaporated at the same moment that it was expressed. He was, in reality, mild, easy to live with, more complaisant than he appeared, and might be easily governed, provided he did not perceive it, for his love of independence was cherished even to fana-

ticism. Some persons thought him wicked, because he ridiculed without reserve, certain fools, or pretenders, to wisdom, who disgusted him; but if this were wickedness, it was the only wickedness he was capable of, and he would have been wretched to think that any person was unhappy through him, even those who had sought most to injure him. Experience, and the example of others, taught him that man ought to be distrusted, but his extreme openness of character did not permit him practically to distrust any individual in particular. He did not believe any one would designedly deceive, and this error produced in him another, that of being too easily prevailed upon by expressions of esteem when offered to him.

Without any family, without any connections of any kind, abandoned at an early age to his own discretion and guidance, born, luckily for himself, with some talents and few passions, he found in study, and in his natural gaiety of disposition, a continual source of recreation and delight. As he owed nothing but to himself and to nature, he was ignorant of baseness and dissimulation; those arts so necessary to arrive at fortune and distinction.

He was thought vain; but he was only proud and independant: no one was less jealous of the talents and success of others, nor applauded them more willingly, provided he saw in them nothing of quackery and offensive presumption; for then he became severe, caustic, and sometimes, perhaps, unjust. But though his vanity was not so excessive as has been supposed, he was not however insensible, but was, on the contrary, very much alive, in the first moments, both to what flattered and to what hurt him: but a little reflection, in either case, soon restored him to his usual placidity.

His principle was that a man of letters, who would establish his name upon durable foundations, ought to be very attentive to what he writes, a little so to what he does, and not quite indifferent to what he says.—D'Alembert conformed his conduct to this principle. He said many idle things, but wrote hardly any, and did none.

No person carried disinterestedness farther than he; but as he cherished neither artificial wants nor absurd fantasies, his virtues cost him so little, that perhaps they scarcely ought to be extravagantly praised. His heart, which was naturally tender, loved to admit soft and pleasing sensations, and hence he was at once very gay and very subject to the inroads of melancholy. With this disposition, it need not surprise us, that in his youth he was very susceptible of love, the most powerful and the most delightful of all passions. But this passion proved only a misfortune to D'Alembert, and the chagrin which it occasioned, disgusted him for a long time with man, with life, and even with study.

After having passed his early years in meditation and labour, he saw, like the sage, the nihility of human knowledge: he felt that it could not occupy his heart, and he exclaimed with the *Aminta* of Tasso—"I have lost all the time that I passed without being in love."

† * †.

An ACCOUNT *of the* ENGLISH AMBASSADOR'S AUDIENCE *with the* SULTAN.

[From Mac Gill's Travels.]

It has always been our professed principle to produce the greatest possible variety and entertainment for our readers, without strictly regarding whether the subject be an original communication, or whether derived from recently published works, which are therefore not yet popular, or from scarce books, and consequently as little popular. Upon this principle we insert the following, which will be at least amusing to many of our readers.

DURING my absence in Russia, his Excellency Mr. Arbuthnot, our new ambassador at the Porte, arrived in Constantinople; yesterday he had his audience with the Sultan, which, as the mode of conducting it was somewhat singular, I shall describe to you.

Yesterday morning, by five o'clock, the whole of the British at the time

in Constantinople repaired to the palace of the Swedish envoy, where his Excellency our ambassador waited for them, to proceed to his audience with the Sultan: before six the whole procession was in motion; the ambassador was carried in a chair by six men in red robes, with high hairy caps on their heads; on each side of the chair walked one of his Excellency's armed attendants, namely, his hussar and his sportsman; the chair was followed by another, which was empty, and then by the secretaries, dragomen, and gentlemen and factors, who happened to be then in the country.

In this manner we proceeded to the water side at Tophana, where boats were provided for us by order of the Porte, to carry us across the Golden Horn, where, when we arrived, we found horses from the stud of the Sultan waiting to convey us to the seraglio: after some little ceremonies we again set forward for the Sublime Porte; before entering it, we all alighted, and proceeded onward between the gates; the outer and inner ones were then shut, and information was sent to the Divan, that an infidel ambassador was without, who wished to throw himself at the feet of the Great Sultan. The place in which we were inclosed is that where criminals are decapitated, and where the heads of traitors are exposed for the satisfaction of the Sultan. After a short time the inner gate was thrown open, and an exhibition truly novel presented itself: a great number of dishes of pillau and cakes of bread were strewed on the ground at appropriate distances, which, at a signal given, a troop of janizaries ran in in the nimblest manner, and carried off. On enquiry, I found that this grotesque spectacle was intended to shew to us infidels in what manner the Turkish troops are fed, and also how active they are.

At length we were permitted to advance, and after crossing an exterior court of the seraglio, arrived at the entrance of the divan, near the door of which were exposed on the ground the presents brought by the ambassador, in order to gain or secure the friendship of the Turks; amongst these were several pieces of fine cloth, some of rich silk, a table clock, and many other articles.

Here his Excellency presented his credentials to the Vizir, who by some gentlemen of the long robe sent them to the Sultan to know his pleasure. The interval between this and the arrival of the answer was employed by us in examining and admiring the magnificence of the apartment in which we were, and which was richly gilt and painted on the roof and columns; the floor was of variegated marble, around the room were sophas covered with costly stuff; in the middle of the side opposite the door, upon a cushion more elevated than the rest, sat the Vizir, over his head we observed the little window covered by a thick grating, at which it is said the Sultan sits to hear what passes on occasions of this kind. It was evident to perceive through the grating that some person sat there, but conjecture alone could lead us to conclude that it was Selim.

A gracious answer from the Sultan at length arrived, which was received with a shout of "Long live the King of Kings, Selim the Sultan of Sultans." Here every one arose, even his Highness the Vizir slipt from his throne, and met the bearer half way to the door; the order was delivered into his hands, he first kissed it, then placed it to his forehead, kissed it again, and then, and not till then, presumed to break the seals; the order was to feed, wash, and clothe the infidels, and then admit them to his presence. In a short time, some little stools were arranged, in different parts of the divan, on the top of which were placed large trays of gold and silver, about four feet diameter, and of a circular form, from which we were to be fed at the expense of the Turks. A most sumptuous entertainment was served up; first, a kind of blancmanger, next different kinds of roasted and baked meats; sweetmeats followed; and to conclude, a delicious cooling sherbet was handed round in gold and silver basons.

We experienced one grievous want at this feast, for we were not furnished either with knife or fork, and were obliged to tear in pieces whatever was set before us; for the articles of a liquid kind, spoons of tor-

toise-shell, studded with gold, were handed to us.

The eating part of the farce being over, perfumed water was poured on the hands of his Excellency, and a napkin of rich embroidery was thrown to him to wipe them with; he was farther perfumed with aloes wood and ambergris.

The usual ceremony of paying the janizaries takes place in general after this part of the audience, but his Excellency had, I suppose, expressed himself sufficiently satisfied of the riches of the Sultan, and it was dispensed with.

I happened to be in Constantinople at a former period, when two senators of Ragusa came to pay their tribute to the Porte, and was present at their audience, when the usual entertainment for the ambassadors, of paying the janizaries, was gone through, a description of which may perhaps amuse you. On quitting the divan, the senators and suite were conducted to a place in the court immediately opposite to the door of it, where seats were prepared for their reception; the servants of the Porte then brought out a number of leathern purses, which were strewed on the ground, and supposed to contain the pay of one company; the colonel of the company then gave the word, upon which the men came running forward, snatched up the purses, and carried them to some other quarter, where they divided them; this they repeated again and again: at the audience of the Ragusans it lasted upwards of an hour and a half; at that of Lord Elgin, this farce continued some hours, when his Lordship, with just indignation, declared, that if it was not concluded immediately, he would return home.

We were now marched to a kind of open room under the piazzas, where coffee was served, and where the infidels were clothed in a manner suitable to their making their appearance before the sublime Sultan; this dress consisted of pelisses; that of his Excellency was lined with samour, worth no small sum; those for the secretaries were very good; the dragomen, who generally take care of themselves, having in some measure the arrangement of this part of the business, were served with a pelisse each, little inferior to that of the ambassador; the others were of trifling value.

To the presence of the Sultan only fourteen can be admitted, and they must be unarmed; so here his Excellency, and those who wore swords, unbuckled: we now passed to the gate of the second court, where we encountered the first guard of eunuchs. This guard was composed of the ugliest monsters that ever wore the human form; their features were horrible, with the flesh depending from them; their faces were of the most deadly hue. Each infidel was now adorned with two eunuchs, who laid a paw on each shoulder, to signify when he was to bend before the King of Kings, and also to prevent outrage in his presence; in this manner we promenaded the second court, and were soon ushered into the august presence.

The Sultan was sitting on a bed, for his throne has the appearance of a large four-posted bed, indeed it is exactly of that shape; the posts were inlaid with precious stones; the cushion on which Selim sat was composed of a massy embroidery of pearls; before him stood his boots, beside him lay his sword, and some turbans of state with rich aigrettes in them.

Selim is a man of about forty-three years of age; his beard is become grisly, his countenance is attractive, the tout ensemble of his physiognomy benign; he never lifted his eyes, nor even gave a side glance; the ambassador made a polite speech to him, which the Prince Marwze, first dragoman at the Porte, translated to the Vizir, who repeated it to the Sultan; he made his reply in simple, kind, and elegant expressions; it was likewise spoken to the Vizir, who passed it to the prince, who then repeated it to the British Company's dragoman, and he to the ambassador. Our audience being finished, we turned to depart, still in our humiliating condition, like criminals; the Sultan, just as we were leaving the room, desired the dragoman to inform his Excellency that he had ordered him a horse, which he hoped would turn out a good one; his Excellency thanked him, and we departed. A strong

guard of janizaries attended during the whole of the procession.

Our return from the audience was nearly the same as our entry. We passed over the outward court of the seraglio, and without the Porte found our horses in waiting where we had left them. As we crossed the water, several British and Maltese vessels saluted us; indeed they had done so in the morning. We conducted the ambassador to the Swedish palace, and were refreshed with lemonade, sweet cakes, &c.: the party then broke up to meet again at Tarapea, the residence of Mr. Arbuthnot, where we were invited to dinner. In the evening we had a ball.

The audience upon the whole was grand, and came up in a great measure to my expectations. It was humiliating, to be sure, to be kept like prisoners so long in that horrible place the Porte, and had we understood the language, the being treated with "infidel" at every corner would have been insufferable. But the manners of the Turks, in every stage of the business, was friendly and kind. They have a greater regard for the English than for any other nation, both for those in the distinguished employments, and for the mercantile part of them: ever since the affair of Egypt, they talk of Nelson, Sir Sidney, their old acquaintance, whom they will tell you they have seen, and General Stewart, with delight and enthusiasm. They highly respect the mercantile world, and say the word of an Englishman is as good as any other man's writing, who is not a mussulman.

The dinner at Tarapea consisted of all that taste could display, or the appetite desire; the rarities of the season were washed down in libations of the choicest wines; the party was elegant, but not gay. We were deprived by her indisposition of the presence of the amiable and beautiful ambassadress; the sickness of his beloved consort threw a gloom over his excellency, who, notwithstanding, strove to appear cheerful: in the evening, however, we found her adorning the drawing-room, where were also the ambassadors of the other missions and their ladies, with most of the ladies and gentlemen attached to them, who had been invited to pay their court on this occasion. According to the eastern custom, coffee and sweetmeats were served up, and the ball commenced by those who chose to dance leading their partners to the hall, where a band of music was playing. Rooms were prepared for those who chose to play at cards. During the evening, ices and lemonade were handed round; the dance continued with much vivacity until some hours after midnight, when the party returned to their respective homes.

The moon shone bright, and shed a charming lustre over the mountains, crowned with the gloomy cypress; the most death-like stillness reigned over the canal, interrupted only by the fall of the oar, which beat in agreeable cadence to the breast, which had been agitated with the dance, or with some softer emotion, for the scene of the evening afforded a rich display of beauty.

The contrast was striking between the elegant simplicity of the English dress, and the gaudy shew of the Grecian. Her excellency was attired in a plain, but costly suit; the other ladies were decked out in rich furred gowns of silver, gold, or rich silk stuffs, and all the family diamonds were displayed on this occasion, stuck on without either art or elegance.

The ambassador appeared in the evening in the Windsor uniform; his dress in the morning was rich embroidery. The gentlemen of the other missions wore the uniform of their respective courts.

The Bee.—No. X.

Floriferis ut apes in saltibus omnia libant,
omnia nos. LUCRETIUS.

AN INTERESTING ANECDOTE.

"WHILE the French were besieging Mantua, a convent which lay exposed to the cannon of the garrison was evacuated by its nuns, and immediately occupied by its besiegers; who, hearing groans issue from underneath the building, humanely followed the sound, and discovered, in a damp and gloomy dungeon, a female seated on a crazy chair, and loaded with fetters, but whose coun-

tenance, though deeply furrowed by convent, she would be exposed to a misery, looked youthful. On seeing shower of cannon-balls. "*Ah!*" re- the soldiers she earnestly petitioned plied the nun, "*mourir, c'est rester* for life and liberty, telling them she *ici!*" had been four years confined in that

MOONSOONS.

cruel manner, for attempting to elope This word, according to Mr. Mars- with a young man who had long been den, is derived from *Moonsem*, master of her heart: the soldiers in- which, in the Arabic and Malay lan- stantly struck off her fetters, upon guages, signifies a year, those winds which she besought them to lead her blowing one half year one way, and into the open air; they represented, the other half the contrary way. that, on quitting the shelter of the

CHARACTERISTICS OF EACH EUROPEAN NATION, *as laid down by* WYNDHAM BEAWES, *in his History of Spain and Portugal.*

	GERMAN.	SPANIARD.	ITALIAN.	FRENCH.	ENGLISH.
In the body	Robust	Horrid	Weak	Agile	Delicate
In mind	A bear	An elephant	A fox	An eagle	A Lion
In dress	A monkey	Modest	Mournful	Proteus	Superb
In customs	Serious	Grave	Easy	Ostentatious	Pleasant
At table	Sottish	Fastidious	Sober	Delicate	Gluttonous
In beauty	A statue	A devil	A man	A woman	An angel
In conversation	Howls	Speaks	Raves	Sings	Cries
In secrets	Forgetful	Dumb	Reserved	Talkative	Unfaithful
In science	Jurist	Theologer	Architect	Something of all	Philosopher
In fidelity	Faithful	Fallacious	Suspicious	Light	Perfidious
In council	Slow	Cautious	Subtle	Precipitate	Imprudent
In religion	Superstitious	Constant	Religious	Zealous	Changeable
Magnificent	In fortifications	In arms	In temples	In palaces	In Fleets
In matrimony the husband is	A lord	A tyrant	A jailor	A companion	A vassal
The wife is	A domestic utensil	A slave	A prisoner	A Lady	A queen
The servant is.....	A companion	A subject	Obedient	A servant	A slave
Infirmities they suffer	The gout	All	Plague	Venereal	Cankers
In death he is.....	Disencumbered	Courageous	Desperate	Violent	Presumptuous

Of the above, however, it may be observed, that not much discrimination is employed. Individual foibles are considered as national characters, and rare diseases as national maladies. The idea is curious, and might be practically illustrated with greater effect than is here done, by a mind strong in comprehending and acute in discriminating.

THE SIGNIFICANT REPLY OF BONAPARTE.

"While the major part of her (Italy) citizens, dazzled by specious promises and fascinated by a phantom falsely called liberty, were blind to the real intentions of her conqueror, he, (Bonaparte) though naturally enveloped with reserve, was led by a pretty woman to betray those intentions very plainly; for as he was dining at Milan with a large company of Italian ladies, one of them ventured to ask, 'What he designed doing with Italy?' He made no reply—again she asked the same question—he was still silent—but on its being repeated a third time, called for a lemon, cut it in two, squeezed all the juice out of one half, threw it away; then squeezed the juice out of the other half, and threw that away likewise."

CHIMÆRA.

The mountains which branch out of Taurus surround it on three sides, as does the sea on the fourth. The river Xanthus divides it into two. It has a remarkable mountain, named *Chimæra*, about six miles from the sea; which has been celebrated by Virgil for its volcano:

Flammisque armata Chimæra.
Æn. vi. *v.* 286.

From the circumstance of its having lions at the top, goats about the middle, and snakes at the bottom, it is said the poets feigned the monster *Chimæra*, which they represent as having the head, body, and tail of these animals.

ADAM'S FIG TREE.

The Banian tree, or Sundian fig, is of a very singular kind; the boughs of which, bending to the earth, take root, and grow up again like the mother plant; whence one of them will have forty bodies and upwards, and, spreading themselves far around, afford shelter for a regiment of soldiers under its branches, which, bearing leaves that are ever green, afford a noble shade.

Milton, whose knowledge was universal, has accurately described this tree:—

So counsell'd he, and both together went
Into the thickest wood: there soon they chose
The fig tree, not that kind for fruit renown'd,
But such as at this day to Indians known,
In Malabar and Decan, spreads her arms
Branching so broad and long, that in the ground
The bended twigs take root, and daughters grow
About the mother tree, a pillar'd shade
High over arch'd, and echoing walks between;
There oft the Indian herdsman, shunning heat,
Shelters in cool, and tenders his pasturing herds
At loop holes cut thro' thickest shade:
P. L. B. ix. *l.* 1100.

POTATOES.

The origin of the word potato is from *battatas* or *pattatas*, which enunciation is common among the natives of Virginia, in North America. The potato was originally a poisonous plant, but rendered esculent by culture.

THE DISTANCE OF AN ECHO.

To produce an echo, says Dr. Albert Haller in his Physiology, requires a distance of 110 feet between the reflecting or echoing body and the ear.

A REMARKABLE EPITAPH.

In Winchester House, there is the following singular epitaph upon a Miss Barford:

Such grace the King of kings bestow'd upon her.
That now she lies with him a maid of honor.'

IRRITABILITY OF QUEEN ELIZABETH.

The following letter from our good Queen Bess will shew the haughtiness of her temper. It was written to Bishop Cox, who, for some time, resisted her her solicitations to yield a portion of land on which Sir Christopher Hatton wished to build a house:

PROUD PRELATE!

You know what you was before I made you what you are now: if you do not immediately comply with my request, by God, I will unfrock you.

ELIZABETH.

OBSERVATIONS *on the* MORALITY *of the* DRAMA. *By* GELLERT.

SIR,

FROM a book* very little known to the English reader I have translated for your Magazine some ingenious observations upon theatrical amusements, and which, as they are the production of a man of genius and taste, I am persuaded will be read with pleasure by those who are at all interested in the subject. They are addressed in the form of a letter to a lady. I remain, &c.

London, Aug. 16. M.

MADAM,

I see from your last letter that you do not entirely hate plays, and I also see that you are not very much convinced of their utility. I am sorry that the drama has not your perfect approbation, and at the same time I am glad that your disapprobation is founded upon such laudable grounds. You do not deny the worth and the appropriate beauty of a well written play, for your taste is too correct for that; no: your judgment values such works, but your too scrupulous heart rejects them. Permit me, Madam, to venture in this instance to refute you.

Believe me, a work must be useful when it exhibits in an obvious and satirical manner the follies and absurd opinions and inclinations of men, and at the same time displays as contrasts their virtues, their manners, and their moral qualities. Methinks I hear you answer this a thousand times with a willing *yes:* but at the same time I see a look of doubt arise in your countenance. You will, perhaps, ask me, why we must tell mankind of their follies in a satirical manner, and whether it would not be more consistent with philanthropy to instruct and ameliorate them in a milder manner? But this amiable question is easily answered. Certain diseases of the mind are as little susceptible of cure by gentle means, as certain diseases of the body. Satire is, to morality, as necessary and as wholesome as properly prepared poisons are in medicine. And how can ridicule be a crime when it is directed, not against individuals, but against general follies? If I write a dialogue, and introduce a miser or a hypocrite in such circumstances that they shall unfold their inclinations and their prejudices, in such a manner as to make them sometimes laughable and sometimes hateful, who can say that this is an offence against philanthropy?

An avaricious *Orgon*, a vain and slanderous *Clelia*, an insupportable and bragging *Damon*,* exhibited upon the stage, are nothing more than avarice, slander, and boasting themselves. The dramatist ridicules these passions, and represents them as inherent in individuals, in order that we may perceive the absurdities and follies which they produce. He does not ridicule merely to produce laughter, but to instil knowledge.

But, you will say, when we see characters acted on the stage, we think of similar ones in common life, and the contempt which, in the theatre has been awakened in my heart for the avaricious and the slanderous character, may afterwards perhaps fall upon persons in whom I have perceived these failings, or may hereafter perceive them. Plays, therefore, awaken hatred, not so much towards vices as towards vicious persons. And how easily may this hatred be unjust, or prove detrimental to the rights of philanthropy! When I have been accustomed to behold the avaricious as a despicable and ridiculous being, how easily may I learn to withhold from such my assistance, my kindness, to aggravate

* *E. F. Gellert's Briefe, nebst einer praktischen abhandlung von dem guten geschmacke in briefen. Leipzig verlegts Caspar Fritsch*, 1779: i. e. *Gellert's Letters, with a practical treatise on good taste, in letters, &c.* Mr. Hayley, in his "Introductory Remarks" to the letters and life of Cowper, mentions this book, and the *Practical Essay* as having been kindly translated into English for him by a friend. He speaks of its "judicious observations," but for my part I think them very dull and very common-place.

* These are characters in popular German plays.

their faults, to expose them upon every opportunity, and to neglect any good qualities, that may, and most probably would, be found conjoined with that one error. And how could I patiently endure, or seek to improve, the person who is already hateful to me?

I confess that these consequences may result from dramatic writings; but they belong not so much to these last as to ourselves. Let an orator or a poet describe, in the strongest manner those bad inclinations which we call vices or follies, and let him not use the smallest ridicule: let him merely depict those vices according to life, and in their worst colours: will his oration, will his poem, while it fills us with hatred of folly, not also inspire us with a hatred of fools? Dramatic writing is not therefore blameable, as such, any more than a light, which displays the disorder of a dark room, is to blame for the disgust which arises in my mind upon seeing this disorder. And after all, the contempt and dislike of fools, which a play may excite, are not, in themselves, censurable. No law of religion bids me love an obstinate, willing fool, as such. I must feel abhorrence; and yet enough kindness may remain to impel me to seek his amelioration, if he himself do not obstinately oppose it. And if the drama appears to be hostile to this sort of kindness, we must not impute the fault to the writer. His intention is to render bad characters ridiculous at the same time that he makes them hateful. A discourse, delivered from the pulpit, which represents avarice as a vice, may as certainly excite unkind opinions towards avaricious persons as the drama.

I will suppose, for my own comfort, that you are satisfied with this solution of the objection. What else can you advance against the drama? Perhaps this; that it produces vanity: that, in many minds, it renders love a predominant passion; that it wastes both time and money, which we might better employ. Permit me to answer these objections.

The drama produces vanity.—You do not mean to say that it gives an opportunity to young men and to females of adorning themselves, and shewing their finery, and thus feeds their pride and their self-love for a certain number of hours. Neither will you say, that the contents of the drama produce a love of vanity, or such a longing as tends merely to the gratification of our own selves. To the first, every public assemblage of persons, even that which is devoted to religious purposes, may give rise. The other danger we are perpetually liable to in every company, unless we keep a perpetual watch over ourselves. What then is the vanity of which you speak? Is it the amorous tricks, the artful dissimulation and deceptions, the endless jests and witticisms that will produce vanity? Perhaps you mean these, and if you do, your objections are well founded. Many plays and afterpieces are filled with a censurable degree of love and romantic tricks, which one cannot sit to see without irritation. We do not skilfully imitate the follies of love, but we bring nature, in her grossest attire, on the stage. We offend the judgment by representations of ill manners, and the heart by immoral propensities. To gratify the vulgar, representations take place which are a disgrace to modesty and propriety. All such pieces and all improper passages in any piece are a shame to the theatre, and an attack upon morals. But, Madam, what can the drama do, when it falls into the hands of dishonourable and vulgar scribblers?* What can the drama do, when she has no friend, no powerful protector, who will watch over her honor and the virtue of the spectators?

But most of the plots in plays have love for their basis: and must we always talk about love when we wish to be agreeable or useful? No: it were better that fewer plays ended with marriage and the giving of hearts: so many people would not suppose that a play is merely a love story, if poets, in their pieces, had hit upon other events, common enough in life, and not always employed that of marriage. I must, however, confess, that, in my opinion, love ought to have that place on the stage which it has in the hearts of men. A rational,

* This applies strictly to our own drama, a *few* writers excepted.

a tender, and an innocent love, is one of the tenderest pleasures of human nature. And, as nature has so closely united us by this affection: as so much happiness and misery flow unequivocally from this sentiment: so can it never be too often exhibited in its proper light, nor too much hated in its follies and excesses. Hence, we cannot long do without the appearance of rational, tender, doting lovers on the stage. But, to represent amorous youths and girls, who offend us with their boldness and their extravagance, is an offence against good manners and against the drama. For what in common life is offensive and disagreeable to rational persons will be equally so on the stage, and ought not to be represented, at least, not without great caution. But when the drama exhibits only what is really excellent and laudable in love, and which excites sentiments of respect in our minds, we are then much indebted to it. The more it shews to us by example, that no one can truly enjoy love but in proportion as he is rational and moral, so much the more will it stimulate us to acquire those qualities. I consider it as particularly useful to intermix great and noble characters with mean and ridiculous ones: for while the latter tell us what we should not be, the former teach us what we should be. An amiable and elevated woman contrasted with a slanderous and envious one, makes the latter more despicable, while it exalts the former. Friendship, love, magnanimity, honour, and all those sentiments which dignify the heart and contribute to the happiness of society, should be exhibited with every charm and allurement on the stage, while, on the contrary, their opposites should be displayed in an absurd and disgusting light.

Your final objection against the theatre seems to concern the misuse of time and money. A rational being, who does not suppose himself born merely for purposes of pleasure, cannot, to be sure, be too careful of the application of his time. There are, however, hours, when we are not in the mood to attend to weighty matters. But, you will reply, are these then the hours when the drama can produce a beneficial effect? Might we not, at such a time, do something more useful? Yes, Madam. He who goes every day to the theatre must be justified by some very remarkable circumstances, if he can avoid self-reproach. But thus much is certain: we must desist sometimes from our usual occupations, in order to return to them with fresh vigour and alacrity. In this point of view pleasure is as necessary as labour, for, without the former, the latter will succeed but indifferently. If then I can find this pleasure, this relaxation, in the theatre, my time there is not misemployed. But the drama, besides its power of pleasing, has also the advantage of being a useful recreation. Our taste, our understanding, our heart, our morals, and our manners, may be improved by it. The polished and the unpolished, the high and the low, the learned and the unlearned, the wise and the foolish, may all find pleasure and advantage in a good drama, though perhaps in different ways. And, on this account alone, the pastime of the theatre, has a decided advantage over other sports, for it is so universal. It is true, we might read a play merely as an instructive dialogue, at home, and also find in it pleasure, use, and perhaps advantage. But, reflect, Madam, that it is solely through its publicity that the drama becomes truly useful. By the skill of the actor it assumes the appearance of real life. A hundred persons would either not read, or, from indolence, not sufficiently feel it, were the representation abolished. On the stage, every thing becomes more comprehensible, more an object of the senses. A fool, that cannot even be allured to the theatre, will hardly set to hear at home what he does not wish to know. The best play is deprived of half its efficacy if it do not excite attention: but a good actor, by his excellence, forces attention from us, ere we are aware of it, and carries us with him through the entire piece before we think we have followed him half so far.

Allowing that witty and moral dialogue may produce equal pleasure and use in a room, yet the drama, being public, is infinitely more ef-

fectual: it is a more universal medium of conveying those benefits, and therefore a superior one. Many persons have few or no opportunities of either reading or hearing a spritely or a grave composition: to such, the theatre provides opportunities. Many would pass their evening in their arm chair, yawning and stretching, or squander away their money in play at a coffee-house, or increase the number of idle talkers in a company, if they could not resort to the public diversion of a theatre. Recollect that only a few have discretion enough to *make* rational amusement, and that the majority of mankind seek for pleasure; and you will then see how necessary it is that the people of a large town should have such amusements as good comedies and tragedies.

As to what concerns the expensiveness of theatrical exhibitions, I will confess that he who goes frequently to the play, paying for the dearest or the cheapest place, according to his circumstances, may be guilty of a sort of extravagance, if, by so doing, he disables himself from performing necessary or proper expenses. But can we not make a division? Can we not sometimes deny ourselves pleasure, and apply the money, intended for the latter, to a more just purpose, when occasion offers?

But, indeed, even though the theatre gave opportunity for extravagance, I do not therefore think it ought to be abolished. If every theatre were shut up, those who like pleasure for their money would still find means of spending it: and is it not better that such a one as the drama should be accessible where a rational pleasure may be obtained?

It is possible to do away every objection against the theatre by proper management. In the first place, there should be a fit and liberal-minded person appointed, by whose judgement must be decided the pieces that are to be performed. This person, supposing him in every sense qualified for his office, would suffer no trash, no silliness to disgrace the stage. He would also free the good pieces from offensive passages, and be responsible that no play was acted, at which the most modest of both sexes might not be present. In order to induce men of talents to write for the theatre, this person should have the power of giving the receipts of the first or second representation to the author, as in other countries. An evening should also be set aside occasionally for the benefit of charitable institutions. How much would these things invigorate the poet and the actor, when they felt that by their exertions on such a day they had become public benefactors.

The performers themselves should have a certain rank, and a proper reward, that they might live respectably, and the prejudices and reproaches which now exist towards them, be done away: prejudices and reproaches which are sometimes just and sometimes unjust.*

If the theatre were so directed (and it should be so), then would a good performer be a useful member of the state, and no honest man need be ashamed to conduct the concerns of such a place: and if it were to attain such a station, I know not where we could look for a more innocent or a more instructive amusement.

I am,
With the highest esteem, &c.
GELLERT.

REMARKS UPON THE "EMILE" OF ROUSSEAU.

For the Universal Magazine.

EMILIUS is full of fire and smoke, of warmth and frigidity, of light and darkness, of logic and error. It is, in a thousand places, the work of a writer of the first order, and in many, that of a child. The philosophy of the author was more in his heart than in his head: when he endeavours merely to reason, he is sometimes common, often sophistical, and occasionally obscure: when his subject warms him, it is then that he is at once correct, interesting, and sublime.

Nothing was a check to Rousseau: neither the fear of offending established opinions, of disgusting by paradox, of appearing cynical, or of creating

* These proposed regulations imply that the German theatre was at that time in a wretched state of estimation and discipline.

enemies. He was indifferent about the public, from its highest to its lowest members. This indifference, united with considerable talents, gave him great advantage. It must be regretted that so much knowledge, wit, enthusiasm, and warmth were wasted in considering man in an ideal state, rather than man such as he is in society.

Let us however be just. Though the method proposed by Roussean be not entirely practicable; though it tends only to form a sort of polished and instructed savage; yet the reflections of the author contain many profound and useful views, from which much that is excellent may be derived in pursuing an education less fanciful. The lively interest which Rousseau felt for women, appears particularly in his fourth volume.

Dialogue is not his talent: what he says of travels is superficial, and is introduced only for the purpose of being followed by an extract from his *Contrat Social*. The first volume appears to be the most weak and heavy; the second the most profound and philosophic; the third the most common and familiar; the fourth the most equal.

The entire work is a treasure of diamonds, which the author might perhaps have put in better order; but the great merit is to have been able to obtain them from the mine.

DESMOND.

Stamford, Aug. 11, 1808.

On the COINCIDENCE *between* Mr. PAINE, Dr. MIDDLETON, *&c.*

SIR,

THOUGH Christians in general may be much obliged to Mr. Clio Rickman, for his remarks upon the *creation* as the true *revelation* of God, yet it is an idea by no means new, or peculiar to the writings of Dr. Conway Middleton, or to those of Mr. Thomas Paine. That the creation is the true revelation of God, is the express language of sacred writ. Let any person, to be convinced of this, read, among other portions of Scripture, the 19th Psalm: "The heavens declare the glory of God, and the firmament sheweth his handy work.—Day unto day uttereth *speech*, and night unto night sheweth knowledge. —Their line is gone out through all the earth, and their *words* to the end of the world." This grand testimony as to the voice of creation is not confined to the Old Testament. In Romans, chap. i. v. 20, it is also expressly said, speaking of the world at large, "For the invisible things of him from the creation of the world, are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even his eternal power and Godhead, so that they are without excuse."

Dr. Conway Middleton's reasoning on the subject is also strong and conclusive, but it is not peculiar to himself: Bishop Butler's Analogy, Abernethey on the Attributes, and several other divines, have established all their reasoning upon the same principles. In fact, among divines, as well as others who are actuated by the dictates of sound reason, there is not one who does not, in proportion, pay a particular homage to the exalted sentiment of the creation being the true revelation of God.

The cause of such an acknowledgement exists equally in the nature of true piety, and in the nature of things. There is scarcely a didactic page or chapter in the sacred writings in which the more ancient volume of creation is not quoted by way of illustration, reference, or appeal. And if this grand truth has almost entirely been lost sight of, during the *hitherto militant state* of christianity, we need not yet despair of its recovery. We have had a number of divines in the establishment whose conduct, and whose doctrines in protesting against the dogmas of the dark ages, have entitled them to the appellation of rational divines. The rational dissenters, also, whose numbers have increased and are increasing, are among the best friends of the rational part of the establishment and society at large, in combating with them against ancient superstition and intolerance. The greatest enemies of reason and revelation are the Methodists, who, in comparison with all other sects or parties, are as distinguishable for their intolerance as for their ignorance and presumption.

CHRISTIANUS RATIONALIS.

MR. MUDFORD TO THE EDITOR.

Sir,

FROM your insertion of my letter in your Magazine for May last, your readers have doubtless expected the performance of the task I there pledged myself to; and the object of the present letter is to apologise for my non-performance, and to assign the causes of it.

As I was sincere in my intentions, and confident in my hopes, I naturally, as I contemplated my undertaking, meditated upon the means most likely to be effective in insuring success. I had written to you in the first effervescence of the moment, and it was not till after some reflection that I was impressed with the idea that the lapse of a month recurring between each letter, would not only protract the general result, but, it was to be feared, would refrigerate the attention and interest of your readers. Aimless labour is pleasing to none: and, as I did not wish to write merely bitter invectives and sounding declamation, without an attempt to produce some effect, I became finally convinced that a Magazine was not the most prompt or efficacious vehicle that might be adopted; and I therefore wrote no letter last month. I was pleased, however, to see in one from a correspondent, that my intentions were not wholly unapproved.

Let it not however be supposed that I have relinquished my resolution of exhibiting this body of spies and informers, this society for the *suppression* of vice, which is itself composed of vice, and has vice for its foundation. What I do shall be done openly; the people are the party aggrieved, and my exertions shall not be wanting to excite the people to shake off this grievance.

I have collected much information upon the private morals of the persons who presume to direct the morals of their countrymen; and I shall not find much difficulty, in shewing that *vice* is exalted into a society, to oppress and injure the comforts and independence of the POOR MAN'S HOME. Surely it will not be difficult to pull down a nest of hornets.

They should have had my heart and hand, had they levelled their endeavours against what is really wrong; and even now they shall have them if they will dare to be honest: if they will dare to carry their purifying voices into fashionable and elevated vice, and bring *it* to public punishment: if they will dare to drag the titled and the wealthy delinquent to the bar of justice; but while they sit, like spiders in their web, watching for the weak and helpless, but shunning the powerful, I will resist them.

Since my last letter, fresh instances have occurred of their petty tyranny, in the case of several butchers who have been fined for selling meat on a Sunday morning to poor labouring men, who received their wages too late over-night to buy it, and who know the taste of it only perhaps on the Sabbath. Humanity blushes for them, who have long since forgot to blush for themselves. These, and similar acts of depredation have they committed upon the humble comforts of the poor. They make the weak their victim: and their petty natures so hunger after importance, that they can build it even upon the wreck that oppression herself has left.

They have a horde of wretches paid by them, whose business it is to watch, and report to their masters what they have found out. How like a set of skulking eaves-droppers must this society appear, giving their directions to their brother officers (I mean the wretches above mentioned), and receiving from them the honourable details of their honourable employment! There is a proverb—"set a thief to catch a thief;" and I certainly think that none but knaves can teach knaves their business. What noble exploits for their secretary to register; how many apple-women, barbers, drovers, and butchers, they have brought to the police office. But, would to Heaven they were merely contemptible, and then I should never have condescended to notice them.

The documents and arguments which I had prepared for my letters to you I shall now employ in a separate pamphlet, which, being read in

a few hours, (instead of months, as would have been the case by dilating them through your Magazine) will speedily produce whatever effect they are likely to produce. Nor is this all: I meditate additional exertions to disseminate among the lower classes of society a just idea of the oppression they are suffering, and the manner in which they may *successfully* resist it. To the authority of the laws I hope my countrymen will never be militant, for their own preservation depends upon the preservation of their potency: but to the self-constituted oppressors, who seek only to scourge and afflict the poor by the vexations of inquisitorial tyranny, I trust they will be for ever hostile: and woe to the individuals of this society if the insulted PEOPLE, I mean that portion of them who have suffered and may hereafter suffer from their insolent interference, should *vindicate themselves*. I repeat it again, and fearlessly, that my exertions shall not be wanting in any shape to stimulate them to their duty. I should more unfeignedly rejoice over the downfall of this busy, impertinent society, (I mean the whole horde of them, down to the dirtiest blackguard among them who receives his infamous stipend for informing) than at any personal good which this world could give me.

I am willing to hope that my motives cannot be suspected, for I have already clearly explained them: yet, lest there should be one who may be inclined to doubt their purity, and to suppose that I am an advocate for *vice*, I here simply affirm, that while this society directed its attention to proper objects, the abolition of the sale of immoral books and plates, &c. I sincerely reverenced them; but when they forsook that, and, for want of better employment, began to harass and circumscribe the comforts of the poor, I abhorred, and do now most honestly abhor them. If they think it necessary to maintain a due observance of the Sabbath, let them go *higher*, and maintain that observance where most it is infringed upon. If a poor man is not to buy his joint on a Sunday, let them make the master pay his wages early enough on a Saturday to enable him to get it, which I know is not the case in many instances. With what stomachs can the *virtuous* members of this society sit down to their own table on the Sabbath, when they know that by their influence many a labouring man is deprived of the only comfortable meal his weekly labour provides him? I speak not this vaguely; for I have known two or three instances already, where butchers refused to serve a poor family with meat on a Sunday morning, for fear one of the wretches of this society should inform against them; and their humble table was therefore most probably bare. Will this be suffered? I solemnly hope not.

But I have already gone farther than I intended in this letter, for their proceedings are so numerous, and withal so *honorable*, and so much like what a *good man* would delight in, that I might exhaust a quire of paper, and yet leave the task unfinished:—for their *virtues* I leave them to their own *suppression*, which they may easily perform; though indeed I should have a high opinion of the sagacity of that spy who can find them out.

I remain, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

London, Aug. 20. W. MUDFORD.

CURSORY CHARACTER *of the* RECENTLY ESTABLISHED REVIEWS *and* MAGAZINES.

Sir,

UPWARDS of four years ago* I had the honour of addressing a series of letters to you upon the respective merits of the literary journals of this country. Since that period I have been an attentive observer of the progress of your work, and have from time to time communicated the results of my leisure hours of reflection. I also regularly obtain a view of all the monthly publications, and as their number has increased since

* See Universal Mag. for 1804, vol. I. pp. 112—218—358.

the year 1804, I will, with your permission, make a supplement to my former letters, by giving a character of these recent births in the world of letters.

To settle the priority of existence between ephemeræ, would be nugatory. Without any reference therefore to which began first and which last, I shall mention them as my memory supplies me with their names.

The Athenæum. Dr. Aikin, by boldly affixing his name to this publication as the Editor, precludes the possibility of anonymous slander and unjust censure. He does not fight behind a shield; and becoming responsible, both in a literary and a moral point of view, for the contents of his journal, there can be little fear that any thing derogatory to either will appear. The contents of this work evidently design it for a limited class of readers: of mere amusement it presents little; of deep learning none; but with light disquisitions, with gentle excursions upon the surface of literature it is in general well stored. The want of variety makes it rather dull: it seems to be the work of few minds, and consequently will have a certain similarity of subject and manner that soon wearies. The vital principle of a mere magazine is endless variety: no scholar takes it up for instruction, but for amusement: no man of learning lays down a classic for it, but resorts to it as a pastime, and consequently is best pleased when his mind is not detained by long enquiries and diffuse dissertations. A magazine should be a flower-garden, artfully arranged, where every glance of the eye conducts to variety of colour and of odour. The *Athenæum* has improved, however, since its commencement, and will continue to do so when it assumes a lighter form.

The Eclectic Review. Of a mere methodistical work, little can be said. Genius and methodism never were united. The cant of religion is the deadly *Bohun Upas* of knowledge: it withers before its potency. The writers for the *Eclectic Review* seem to be men of extraordinary imbecility of mind; but they write for a class of readers that have equal imbecility, and when amusement and knowledge are tempered to the quality of the recipient, who has a right to complain?

The Oxford Review. "The weakest man that ever walked upon the face of the earth without a keeper" projected this work; and it is therefore no wonder it perished beneath his ideotic grasp. I wish not to disturb its quiet repose.

The Literary Panorama. There is novelty of plan in this work, and diligence of execution. The criticisms which it contains are written with candour and liberality, and sometimes with spirit and knowledge. But there is occasionally too much of the cant of morality about them. The selections of scattered knowledge, from various sources, form a very amusing and interesting part of their plan; and their patriotism entitles them to the respect of every Englishman. In this they are uniform and persevering; and would to Heaven, in times like these, the press were always so worthily employed, when employed in politics. I am glad to see its increasing reputation, and hope it will continue, for I think it deserving of it.

The Censura Literaria. Mr. Egerton Brydges seems to have begun this work merely as a vehicle of giving a monthly quantum of his own groans to the public. Private sorrow is sacred; but he who is always complaining must sometimes complain from peevishness. Heaven knows how much or how little of misfortune really belongs to Mr. Brydges; but, by his own account, he is a royal depot of affliction, and there is no modification of misery which may not be found in him. Like *Shylock*, he might exclaim,

"No ill luck stirring but what lights o' my shoulders; no sighs but o' my breathing; no tears but o' my shedding."

All this, however, I suspect to be but the querulousness of affectation, which delights to be thought something which it is not, even though it be pre-eminence of wretchedness.

With regard to the merits of the *Censura Literaria*, they must of course be of an humble nature. He who has money to buy old books, can find no difficulty in copying off their titles and giving specimens of their contents. Such genius therefore as is

necessary to perform this exalted operation, he and his coadjutors may claim, and I am willing to allow.

But there is an original department in this work, called the *Ruminator*, in which I have frequently met with as much inanity of idea as can be found in any novel from Leadenhall-street. Mr. Brydges does not seem to copy any one: he draws from his own resources, and stamps upon his lucubrations, the very colour and form of his own mind. I wish therefore I could praise them. But whining affectation, turgid language, silly sentiment, and empty declamation, can never extract applause from my pen. For each and every one of these qualities I refer your readers to an incomprehensible story in the last two numbers.

The Cabinet. This work is only a warped slip from the *Monthly Mirror*, but greatly inferior to it. I have never seen an article in it since its first commencement that would do credit to a tolerably educated school-boy. Their theatrical criticism is mere tittle-tattle, such as we might expect from a young lady who goes to see *George Barnwell* at Christmas, when she is at home for the holidays. The plates are well engraved, and form the best part of the work.

The Satirist. This is one of those works that obtain a short celebrity from flattering the worst passions of mankind. Abuse, moral, literary, and political, forms its leading feature: and though some of its objects are persons that merit exposure, yet even then we can only consider it as a contest between a shoe-black and a dustman. Under pretence of *satire*, it indulges in vulgar and coarse invective: and by collecting together a few private anecdotes of men, it holds a scourge which a good and virtuous man despises. Its own delinquency is often greater than that which it would expose: and from the inveteracy of its manner we are led to suspect malignancy of motive.

The abusive fury of this work seems to be in proportion to the minuteness of its object, and mere futuity is lashed with the same severity as intentional dereliction. This argues one of two things: either that the writers cannot discriminate: or, having sold their pens to their employers, write, not what their judgments approve, but what their necessities compel. There is indeed a third motive, pure love of slander; and I leave them to adopt which they like best.

Of the literary execution of this work it would be idle to speak. It is written merely for the present, with no other aim or expectation, and consequently the materials are flimsy light. Real knowledge, wit, wisdom, science, and criticism, are banished to an awful distance from their pages; and in their place appear flippancy, dogmatism, and impertinence. I know few things which would more truly offend me, than to be suspected of writing for the *Satirist:* and what I now write is written by one who has never been dishonoured by their notice; and who, if he were, would have dignity enough to forgive them.

Thus, Mr. Editor, I believe I have included all the recently established journals; and this, with my former letters therefore, forms a whole.

I remain, &c.

Cambridge, Aug. 12. D.

CRITICISM.

"Nulli negabimus, nulli differemus justitiam."

QUEENHOO-HALL, *a Romance: and* ANCIENT TIMES, *a Drama. By the late* JOSEPH STRUTT, 4 vols. 8vo. 1808.

THIS is a posthumous work, and was left by its author in an unfinished and imperfect state: it can be judged therefore by none of the established rules of criticism, for we know not how different it might have appeared from its present form, had Mr. Strutt lived to finish it; nor what might have been omitted which is now censurable, or added which is now wanted.

Mr. Strutt is advantageously known as an antiquary and an artist; and his acquirements in the former character

were such as well qualified him to perform what he has here attempted; the professed object of this work being to illustrate the manners of society in the middle of the fifteenth century, by detailing, in the form of a connected narrative, the amusements, pursuits, and character of our ancestors at that period.

In an advertisement, which is prefixed to these volumes by the editor, we are informed that the tale of Queenhoo-Hall "is brought by a literary friend to a hasty conclusion," but that in the original manuscript there seemed to be a foundation laid for a more extensive narrative. At present, indeed, the conclusion is too abrupt to please or satisfy the mind.

It is evident that Mr. Strutt did not mean to advance any claims to applause from the novelty or ingenuity of his incidents: they are indeed of a true novel cast, and narrated with less energy and perspicuity of language than many of the popular romances of the day. Of the language, were it candid to assert any thing in dispraise of what the author had not the opportunity to polish or revise, we should say that it is too stiff and artificial for easy and natural narration: but in the dramatic part of his story, where he can give his interlocutors the appropriate phraseology of their times, he is more successful. Of the adverb *exceedingly* we remarked a profuse application, occurring no less than five times in the course of three pages. These and some other tautologies we think the editor might have ventured to correct without incurring the charge of a wanton defacement of his author's language.

There is one part in which we think Mr. Strutt eminently excels: in the first delineation and subsequent consistency of character. Some of his portraits are finished with great accuracy; as a specimen we will extract that of the penurious Gaston St. Clere, and his time eaten steward:

"It was somewhat turned of noon when we arrived at Gay Bowers, where I was surprised by the sight of a stately manor running hastily to ruins. The grass was growing upon the top of the walls, and part of them were already fallen into the surrounding moat. The outer court wore the appearance of the entrance to a desolated cavern, rather than the approach to the dwelling of a person of wealth. The casements of the house were most of them broken, and in many places patched with boards, to supply want of glass. In short, every part of the edifice indicated the miserable disposition of its owner. The steward, who attended in the hall, and acted also in the place of a porter, was habited in the fashion of the last century. The embroidery upon his tunic, and the badge of the Saint Cleres, which was wrought upon the front, appeared so imperfectly, that it could not readily be distinguished; and the tunic itself, which formerly had been blue, was so tattered and patched, and covered with grease, that the pristine colour was nearly obliterated. His person was as remarkable as his dress; a tall, meagre figure, with a few locks of hair upon the back part of his head, and those perfectly white; his visage was long, his eyes sunk deeply into the sockets, and his cheek-bones high and prominent. I thought, in sooth, he resembled an inhabitant of the charnel house, rather than an animated being. With a low and hollow voice, affecting at the same time great solemnity, he enquired who I was, and what brought me thither. I told him it was my wish to speak with the Baron Saint Clere upon some business of great importance. He then desired me to wait in the hall, and stalked away with much gravity through a passage which led to the inferior part of the mansion, and took no notice of my companion, who seemed somewhat hurt upon the occasion, and said, 'This walking atomy, I trow, does not remember me here; but, in good sooth, he knows me passing well, when he takes a horn of ale or two with me at Baddow; aye, and finds my house as readily as my pullets find their roosts.' I could not help smiling at the good dame's observation, but made no reply.

"During the absence of the steward, which was somewhat prolonged, I cast my eyes over the furniture of the hall; and here an equal appearance of wretchedness displayed itself, with that so strikingly obvious upon the outside of the mansion. The hang-

jugs of stately tapestry were torn in an hundred places, and through the lacerations exposed the naked walls. The suits of armour, which had anciently belonged to the heroes of the family of Saint Clere, celebrated for their valour in the Holy Wars, were covered with dust, and falling away piece-meal from their stands. The seat of state was stripped of all its ornaments; the hawk's perches were broken down; and cobwebs concealed the carvings, with other rich embellishments of the roof, from the eye of the spectator. Here, hospitality, as I have heard my mother say, delighted once to dwell; but here I found no vestige of her footsteps.

"The steward returned, and we were formally ushered to the presence of the lord of this large ruin. I found him to be a diminutive man, crooked in his person, and ill-favoured. His dark brows hung over his eyes like pent-houses; but his eyes themselves were sharp and piercing. He was seated at a table, and several writings lay before him. As we approached, he cast his eyes upon me, and surveyed me with so much earnestness, that he put me to the blush."

As a companion to the above, the following is well suited. It exhibits the fare of this miser; and to feel its force, it should be remembered what was the hospitality of English barons in the fifteenth century.

"This room, which formerly had been the room of state, was spacious and lofty; having a large window at the end, embellished with beautiful painted glass, some remnants of which appeared, but with so mutilated and misplaced, that none of the subjects could be traced with any degree of certainty. The hangings were of crimson bandkin, richly embroidered, but covered with dust, and in many places broken from their fastenings, exposed the walls, and afforded asylums without number for the spiders. The stools and tressels were elegantly covered, and had been gilt; but most of them were broken, and the velvet cushions belonging to them so torn, that the bombast, with which they were stuffed, appeared on the outside, and, in several instances, hung down nearly to the floor. In the middle of this extensive parlour stood a small table, covered with a tattered carpet, and a diaper over it; which, I presume, from its threadbare state, had been in the family long before the present owner of the mansion was born. There were two covers upon the table; under the one was a small piece of lean mutton, and under the other a large dish full of oatmeal pottage. The middle of the table was decorated with a little platter, containing some withered sallad, and near it was placed the remnant of a loaf of barley-bread.

"My cousin kept no chaplain to give us the benedicite, nor carver to perform the honours of the table; he therefore took upon himself the performance of both offices. He helped me to a portion of the pottage; and, at the same time, made a long panegyric upon the wholesomeness of such kind of food. I could only eat a few spoonfuls, and refused to taste the mutton. 'Alas, my dear cousin,' said he, shaking his head, 'I plainly perceive that my poor table will not satisfy your better taste; you have been used to much higher living, and cannot dine without dainties.—Your father, coz, I have been told, used to keep state, disdaining to eat of common meats:—Twenty pounds, I warrant, expended for one course. Fish must be had, of the most costly kind; strange birds, and foreign fowls, the more expensive the better; to say nothing of venison and red deer with pasties, and rich sauces: such luxuries bred diseases, and lost him many of his fair estates.—Gad wot, he was to blame.' Here I interrupted him, 'Sir, he was my father,'—'Well, well,' said he, 'I have done:—he is dead, God rest his soul! but you and I have much reason to blame him.' 'In truth, I know not wherein," answered I; 'he was a kind and tender parent.' 'Why, there it is,' replied my cousin, eagerly, 'for that very tenderness, and bringing you up with high notions, ill proportioned to the slender means which you have to support yourself. The wealth, which should have supported you, he squandered away in riot and luxury.' 'I know not,' said I, 'of the extravagance you talk of. My father, sir, loved hospitality; my mother superin-

tended the provision for the family; and though they lived, in some degree, as became the descendants of the Darcies and the St. Cleres, it was done without superfluity on the one hand, or parsimony on the other.' 'Perhaps,' retorted he, 'by and bye, you may find I have not mis-stated this matter. I see you will find it a hard case to fare as I do; and yet, heaven knows! with all my parsimony, I find it difficult to supply my table as you see it.' 'You surprise me, sir,' said I. 'No doubt,' answered he; 'but, alas! I have stood in the gap on your mother's account; and so, to our mutual loss, has my father before me; for he loved your mother, and went greater lengths for her than prudence warranted. The estates, committed to our management, were mortgaged so heavily, that large remittances have been made from our own purses; besides repairs, and various other drawbacks, by which they are entirely eaten up.—For my part, I am ready to do all that lies in my power; but it is hard that the whole of the burden should fall upon my shoulders.' 'Surely, sir,' said I, 'my mother's jointure, which descends to me, will prevent my being dependant upon any one.' 'I fear,' answered he, drawing his hand over his chin, 'you are not well informed upon this point; but it shall be discussed hereafter.' At this moment the entrance of the steward put an end to the discourse. My cousin desired him to remove the meat and the pottage, and to put the fruit upon the table, which consisted of three or four roasted crab apples, some sweetings, and half a dozen horse plums. By way of confectionary, a few carraways were brought in a saucer, with a spoonful or two of sharp capers, and a morsel of Suffolk cheese. Our drink was sour ale, and weak metheglin. He made several clumsy excuses for the poverty of his desert, and repeated his fears, that I should think it hard to fare as he did; and launched out afresh in praise of economy, and condemnation of the luxury to which I had been accustomed. In short, I was disgusted with my entertainment; and, my heart being full, I burst into tears. 'What the devil ails thee now!' cried he, pretending to be amazed. I begged of him to permit me to retire; alleging, consistent with truth, that I was unwell. He then rang the bell, and dispatched the steward to call Urseley, who presently appeared, and was ordered to attend me to my chamber. 'I mean,' said he, 'the bedroom, which my cousin is to have to herself.' He then took me by the hand, telling me, I might rely upon him. I thanked him for his promise, and withdrew."

It would be a fruitless labour to point out the several defects of these volumes, for they are of that nature which clearly indicate the unfinished state of the work: such for example, as making the characters at one time speak in the language of the fifteenth century, and at another in the polished idiom of the nineteenth.

The volumes open with a full account of the ancient festival of May-day, and the whole is detailed with much minuteness. It recalls to the recollection many of the familiar passages of Shakspeare, and contemporary authors, and often serves to illustrate them. We will extract it for the gratification of our readers.*

"In the front of the pavilion, a large square was staked out, and fenced with ropes, to prevent the crowd from pressing upon the performers, and interrupting the diversion; there were also two bars at the bottom of the inclosure, through which the actors might pass and repass, as occasion required.

"Six young men first entered the square, clothed in jerkins of leather, with axes upon their shoulders like

* In the above extract will be found a few terms, not familiar to the general reader, and of which, for their advantage, we will subjoin an explanation. Those which are not here explicated, may be found in Johnson or any other English dictionary.

Tarantine. A silken stuff for dress.
Courtpies. In women's dress, a short vest.
Watchet coloured. Pale blue.
Rochet. A lawn garment, resembling a surplice, gathered at the wrists.
Baudekin. A cloth of gold tissue, with figures in silk, for female dress.
Tunic. A coat, upper garment.

woodmen, and their heads bound with large garlands of ivy-leaves intertwined with sprigs of hawthorn. Then followed,

"Six young maidens of the village, dressed in blue kirtles, with garlands of primroses on their heads, leading a fine sleek cow, decorated with ribbons of various colours interspersed with flowers; and the horns of the animal were tipped with gold. These were succeeded by

"Six foresters, equipped in green tunics, with hoods and hosen of the same colour; each of them carried a bugle-horn attached to a baldrick of silk; which he sounded as he passed the barrier. After them, came

"Peter Lanaret, the baron's chief falconer, who personified Robin Hood: he was attired in a bright grass-green tunic, fringed with gold; his hood and his hosen were parti-coloured, blue and white; he had a large garland of rose-buds on his head, a bow bent in his hand, a sheaf of arrows at his girdle, and a bugle-horn depending from a baldrick of light blue tarantine, embroidered with silver; he had also a sword and a dagger, the hilts of both being richly embossed with gold.

"Fabian a page, as Little John, walked at his right hand; and Cecil Cellerman the butler, as Will Stukeley, at his left. These, with ten others of the jolly outlaws's attendants who followed, were habited in green garments, bearing their bows bent in their hands, and their arrows in their girdles. Then came

"Two maidens, in orange-coloured kirtles with white courtpies, strewing flowers; followed immediately by

"The maid Marian, elegantly habited in a watchet-coloured tunic reaching to the ground; over which she wore a white linen rochet with loose sleeves, fringed with silver, and very neatly plaited; her girdle was of silver baudekin, fastened with a double bow on the left side; her long flaxen hair was divided into many ringlets, and flowed upon her shoulders; the top part of her head was covered with a net-work cawl of gold, upon which was placed a garland of silver, ornamented with blue violets. She was supported by

"Two bride-maidens, in sky-coloured rochets girt with crimson girdles, wearing garlands upon their heads, of blue and white violets. After them, came

"Four other females in green courtpies, and garlands of violets and cowslips: Then

"Sampson the smith, as Friar Tuck, carrying a huge quarter-staff on his shoulder; and Morris the mole-taker, who represented Much the miller's son, having a long pole with an inflated bladder attached to one end: And after them

"The MAY-POLE, drawn by eight fine oxen, decorated with scarfs, ribbons, and flowers of divers colours; and the tips of their horns were embellished with gold. The rear was closed by

"The hobby horse and the dragon.

"When the May-pole was drawn into the square, the foresters sounded their horns, and the populace expressed their pleasure by shouting incessantly until it reached the place assigned for its elevation:—and during the time the ground was preparing for its reception, the barriers of the bottom of the inclosure were opened for the villagers to approach, and adorn it with ribbons, garlands, and flowers, as their inclination prompted them.

"The pole being sufficiently onerated with finery, the square was cleared from such as had no part to perform in the pageant; and then it was elevated amidst the reiterated acclamations of the spectators. The woodmen and the milk-maidens danced around it according to the rustic fashion; the measure was played by Peretto Cheverette, the baron's chief minstrel, on the bag-pipes, accompanied with the pipe and tabour, performed by one of his associates. When the dance was finished, Gregory the jester, who, as we have observed already, undertook to play the hobby-horse, came forward with his appropriate equipment, and, frisking up and down the square without restriction, imitated the galloping, curvetting, ambling, trotting, and other paces of a horse, to the infinite satisfaction of the lower classes of the spectators. He was followed by Peter Parker, the baron's ranger, who personated a dragon, hissing, yelling, and

shaking his wings with wonderful ingenuity; and to complete the mirth, Morris, in the character of Much, having small bells attached to his knees and elbows, capered here and there between the two monsters in the form of a dance; and as often as he came near to the sides of the inclosure, he cast slily a handful of meal into the faces of the gaping rustics, or rapped them about their heads with the bladder tied at the end of his pole. In the mean time, Sampson, representing Friar Tuck, walked with much gravity around the square, and occasionally let fall his heavy staff upon the toes of such of the crowd as he thought were approaching more forward than they ought to do; and if the sufferers cried out from the sense of the pain, he addressed them in a solemn tone of voice, advising them to count their beads, say a paternoster or two, and to beware of purgatory. These vagaries were highly palatable to the populace, who announced their delight by repeated plaudits and loud bursts of laughter; for this reason they were continued for a considerable length of time: but Gregory, beginning at last to faulter in his paces, ordered the dragon to fall back: the well-nurtured beast, being out of breath, readily obeyed, and their two companions followed their example; which concluded this part of the pastime.

"Then Thomas the reve's son, in the habit of a pilgrim, came to the front of the pavilion, where he was met by a party of the young men and maidens belonging to the procession; and the following dialogue, composed for the purpose by Peretto the minstrel, was sung; and he accompanied the voices with his harp:—

PALMER. *To the Women.*
Fair damsels, say what brings you here?
DAMSELS.
To celebrate the first of May.
PALMER.
Wherefore this day to you so dear?
DAMSELS.
It is bold ROBIN'S wedding-day.
CHORUS.
With sprightly dance and carols gay,
We welcome ROBIN'S wedding-day.
PALMER. *To the Men.*
Why stand the bowmen on a row?—
MEN.
Prepar'd to play a skilful game.
PALMER.
Some Saint to honour 'tis I trow:—
MEN.
'Tis ROBIN HOOD, for that's his name.
CHORUS.
With sprightly dance, and carols gay,
We keep bold ROBIN'S wedding-day.
PALMER.
But who is she so fair, bedight
In tunic blue and rochet white?
WOMAN.
Dost thou not know her, holy man?
It is the blithe maid MARIAN.
PALMER.
How name ye him y'clad in green,
With party hose and fringes sheen?
MAN.
It is the prince of archers good:
And he is hight bold ROBIN HOOD.
CHORUS.
With merry carol, dance, and play,
We welcome ROBIN'S wedding-day.

PALMER.
I am a stranger, well ye wot,
And much have travell'd: I have seen
The Lord's sepulchre, and the grot
Where he was born of maiden clean.

The shells of Cales, in sign of grace,
Adorn my hat;—and you may spy
A vernicle, with His dear face
Impress'd, who died on Calvary.

Upon my cloak Saint Peter's keys
Were drawn at Rome, with crosses wide:
And reliques from beyond the seas
I bear, or woe may me betide!

The snow-topp'd hills of Armony,
Where Nöe's ark may now be found,
I've seen:—in sooth I do not lie;
Told o'er my beads, and kiss'd the ground.

At Walsingham my vows I've paid;
At Waltham eke, and Coloraine;
And to Saint Thomas I have pray'd,
Who near the holy rood was slain.

But tell me to what saint, I pray,
What martyr, or what angel bright,
Is dedicate this holy day,
That brings you here so gaily dight?

This calendar I've search'd with care
For saints y'bless'd and angels good;
The holy saints are named there,
But no such saint as ROBIN HOOD.

MEN.
Dost thou not, simple Palmer, know—
What ev'ry child can tell thee here,—
Nor saint nor angel claims this show,
But the bright season of the year?
WOMEN.
The cowslips now adorn the dells;
On sunny banks primroses blow,
With violets sweet and dainty bells;
And on the green the daisies grow:

The birds in warbling chorus sing
In hedge and grove and shady wood,
Inviting us to hail the spring,
And join the troop of ROBIN HOOD.

CHORUS.

With merry carol, dance, and play,
We welcome ROBIN's wedding-day.

"When the dialogue was concluded, the archers set up a target at the lower part of the Green, and made trial of their skill in a regular succession. Robin Hood and Will Stukeley excelled their comrades; and both of them lodged an arrow in the centre circle of gold, so near to each other that the difference could not readily be decided, which occasioned them to shoot again; when Robin struck the gold a second time, and Stukeley's arrow was affixed upon the edge of it. Robin was therefore adjudged the conqueror; and the prize of honour, a garland of laurel embellished with variegated ribbons, was put upon his head; and to Stukeley was given a garland of ivy, because he was the second best performer in that contest.

"The pageant was finished with the archery; and the procession began to move away, to make room for the villagers, who afterwards assembled in the square, and amused themselves by dancing round the May-pole in promiscuous companies, according to the ancient custom."

We might extract many other passages similar to the above, which forcibly depict the manners and customs among the lower classes of the period in which the narrative is laid: but we will close our account of Queenhoo-Hall with the following comic narrative.

A *Dissour*, or professional story-teller, is represented as coming to a country alehouse late in the evening, and proposes, that if the company present will raise money to defray his night's lodging and incidental refreshment, he will tell a merry story. The guests readily do this, and the *dissour* accordingly tells of two travelling priests, who, being benighted in their way to Oxford, came to the gate of a small priory, and begged for admission. The porter thinks they are minstrels or jugglers, and is glad to let them enter in hopes of some entertainment from them. It happens, that the prior and sub-prior of this priory are gone to Oxford, being convened there by the bishop; and the sacrist, the cellerer, and the rest of the brethren, being lusty bloods and enemies to penance, agreed to hold a night of revelry in their absence. It was Christmas eve, and our two priests were introduced to the revellers, and expected to perform their part towards the general merriment: but when it is discovered that they are neither jugglers nor minstrels, they are turned out of doors to get a night's lodging where they may. They had not gone far from the priory when they met a troop of courtezans, going thither for the comfort of the friars. The two priests guessed what was going forwards, but held on their way in darkness and uncertainty: and here let our author continue the narrative:

"Some time afterwards they reached the borders of a large wood, where there were several roads; and while they were hesitating which they should chuse, the lights appeared again among the bushes, but much nearer, and discovered a large train of horsemen, with their servants bearing lighted torches; and, upon their approach, our travellers perceived them to be ecclesiastics, which made them right glad; and, humbly addressing themselves to him who appeared to be the highest in authority, besought him dearnly to acquaint them where they might find housing till the morning. 'We are,' said they 'God wot, two priests, who have far travelled, and, as you see, benighted in this stound, and sore amated by the cold wind and the snow.'—'Gramercy!' returned the horseman, 'but certes ye be in no couthly plight, and have unwittingly overshot the only place for harbour near at hand: aread me, my friends, how haps it you passed the priory to the right? for well I wean ye have travelled that road. It is the duty of thilk brotherhood to receive strangers, for godsake, and to fare them well.'—'Certes then,' said Dan John, 'they have full foully dealt by us:' and with that he related to the horseman what had passed there; the manner in which they had been thrust from the doors; and the arrival of the

jolly wassellers, who had been admitted afterwards. 'By holy Saint Benedict, our blessed patron!' returned the prior, for it was him they were speaking to, 'if ye tell me no leesings, I will make them dear aby this misrule.—Ye shall go back with me, and my authority, I ween, will make sicker your welcome:' so saying, he caused two of the grooms to dismount, and having set the priests upon their horses, they rode together towards the priory. When the prior, having a crafty thought in his head, to be himself, unseen, a witness to the jolliment, and to work the more shame upon the lusty revellers, caused his followers to abide at that stound, in a dell, at a short distance from the priory, and he, with the two priests, went forward on foot. He had with him a key of a private door belonging to his own apartment, and afforded communication with a gallery, in which was a window that commanded a full view of the hall, and the company therein assembled. Here he came, with his two companions, and was presently assured, from his own kenning, that they had not belied the brethren. The supper was just serving up, and the prior desiring the priests to remain there, and carefully note where every thing should be deposited, so as to bear the same in memory, withdrew, and returned to his company, who all came forward with him; and knocking aloud at the gate, every thing in the hall was suddenly thrown into the utmost confusion, the alarm being given, that the prior and sub-governors were returned: the boards were cleared in an instant, the cloths removed, and the lemans, who visited the pious fraternity, were incontinently thrust into a hiding-place; and such of the friars, whose duty called them not to wait upon their superiors, slunk into their cells, bestowing many a malediction upon their mishap, in having so fair a game so foully stinted.

"When the prior entered the hall, he enquired why he found so large a fire in the chimney; and, after some hesitation, the sacrist told him, 'that the night being cold, the brethren had met there to say their vespers.'—'By my Holy Dame,' said the prior, 'here is a savory smell! I trust their prayers have been well received: and as the hall is right warm, I hold it good to tarry here, for in sooth I am somewhat surbett with riding: lay a carpet upon the board, with napkins; I would fain have wherewithall to eat.'—'My lord,' quoth the cellerer, 'the fire is made in the refectory, and the purveyor will cover the board there in a short space.'—'Gramercy, for your diligence,' answered the prior, 'it is right commendable; but now I remember me, I have brought with me from Oxford a conning clerk, who deals in magic, and is a subtle tregetour, he has promised to show me of his craft, and to work many wondrous doings; I am not the churl to have this pastime to myself, but am willing all the brethren should, at this merry tide, be partakers with me.'

"He then caused all the friars to be summoned, and when they had entered the hall, to take their places, they were somewhat asterted by the hest of the prior, but when they saw there was no semblaunce of upbrayings in his countenance, they seated themselves more chearily.

"The prior then whispered to the sub-prior, who forthwith went privily to the gallery where the priests had been placed; and having furnished them with disguisements, so that they could not readily be known again by those who had seen them before, they were brought into the hall; Dan John passed for the joculator, and his companion for his servant, who carried a small box under his arm, when the prior spake to Dan John in this wise: —'Certes, I am told you are a skilful tragetour, and well learned in pastimes of magic, if so be, show us of your ability at this merry tide, and you shall not miss your meed.' 'So please you, my lord,' replied Dan John, 'I am willing to overstep my accustomed practice, and sithence you have been long fasting upon your journey, I hold it right meet to have the tables covered for your refreshment.'—'By Saint Thomas,' cried the prior, 'that were in sooth a good deed done, and marry none the worse if it be eftsoons done!'—'Your lordship,' quoth the pretended juggler, 'need only command the pages to pight the carpets, and spread the napkins, for I am ready to make an essay

of my craft.' The carpets were pight, and the napkins spread incontinently. The friars at this tide were nought inclined to mirth, but uneathly kept their seats, silently eyeing each other, and casting in their minds what selcouth gambol was to follow this preparation. Dan John called for a chafing-dish filled with live coals, and taking a portion of powder from the box which his companion bore beneath his arm, he cast the same upon the fire, saying, 'Wend hither, ye buxom spirits of the night, who confessen the power of this spell, and bring with you capons richly stewed, doe venison ybaked in pies, with wild ducks, cygnets, and other water fowl.' —'By the blessed Martyr of Kent ye have said well,' quoth the prior; 'but so far as I can see, our supper will be an imaginary one.'—'Aread you, my lord,' returned the juggler, 'the spirits I have called upon are real spirits, and wend to and fro without being kenned by mortal eyes, but cause the closet at your Lordship's right hand to be opened, and you shall be my witness the goblins have not deceived me.' The closet was opened, and the dainties produced. 'And now,' continued Dan John, 'I will add some other dishes well accorded to the season;' so saying, he repeated his spell, and hight his spirits to bring 'a brave boar's head well brawned, chines of fat porkers, and turkies roasted:' these were found in the opposite closet at the prior's left hand, and pight upon the table. 'The manchet, and fine bread,' added the juggler, "will be found in abundance behind the high desk.' By this time the tables were fairly covered, when the prior spoke thus: 'In truth you are a notable artist, and have right well achieved a work of wonder: if the whole be not an illusion of the foul fiend, we shall not sleep with empty stomachs; but I wot, Syr, thir lacketh yet one thing, and that is wine.'—'In sooth, my lord, as I told you, mine are airy spirits, and meddle not greatly with that article; beneath the stalls there are a few pottle pots, but my familiar areads me, that he can find none better than in your lordship's cellars.' The prior laughed heartily at this conclusion; and having given his benediction, ordered the carvers to do their duty; 'for I perceive,' said he, 'this is none illusion, but substantial food, well ycooked, and suited to the holy tide.'

"The pious fraternity, whilom so joyous, now sat upon thorns, and sore abashed, foreseeing that this guileful beginning would bring forth a noyous ending; for they dempt well they had been bewrayed, but wot not by what malengine, unless the joculator really dealed with the devil: yet, in order to gloss over the matter as far as they might, they partook of the provision, though with little appetite, and prayed lustily that every morsel might choke the juggler, who, nothing recking of their curses, with his companion, eat and drank chearily; and the prior, with the superior officers, were exceedingly facetious. After the supper was ended, and the viands taken from the tables, the prior filled a large cup with white Muscadel, and presented the same to Dan John, saying, 'Sickerly, my friend, we have to remercy you for a fair entertainment: this is the rarest cast of jugglery I ever beheld. But read me now soothly, I pray you, are these things counterfeited by the craft of magic natural, or by the couthly workings of spirits, or fairy elves, such as old stories tellen dance in the green meads by moon-light?'—'Wot you not, my lord,' said Dan John, 'I called my spirits by a charm, which magic natural teacheth, so cometh their obeisance; for, as I told you, they work unseen.'—'But may they not take upon them a bodily form, so be it you command them?' quoth the prior.—'Certes they may,' said John.—'Sithence you grant it so,' answered the prior, 'if you have not gone to the extent of your conning, I should like well to see some sprite, or elf, in human form.'—'In good sooth, my lord,' returned the juggler, 'you have proposed a deed uneathly to be performed: yet, to do you pleasure, I will not stint the essayment of my art, but I aread you all to be aware of harm, and to keep your places. The spirits I shall upraise are right seemly in their forms, but crafty and treacherous in their actions, and apt to entice men to lustful and wanton dalliance, unprofitable to their souls: and further I warn you to eschew them, for they be foul

thieves and plunderers, and you must whip them soundly, or eftsoons they will return again, and rob your cellars, your kitchen, and your pantry, for wot ye well they be great gormandizers.'—'You say well,' said the prior, 'and I will order eight or ten of the most sturdy grooms from the stables, to stand accoiled with scourges in their hands, to smite when the time requires.' The grooms were forthwith brought into the hall, and placed near to the door, the station assigned to them by the juggler. The friars, algates they were sore awhaped, could no longer refrain from murmuring: they foresaw to what purpose this arrangement was made; and the sacrist, joined with the cellerer, made bold to address the prior in these words:—'My good lord, ourselves, and the brethren at large, intreat you to bear in souvenance, that we be forsaid to use such cursed conjurations, or, by craft of necromancy, hold communication with sathan, or his foul angels: we are aghast at the evil workings of this wicked wizard, and beseech you to stint him; sithence the fiends be more puissant than mortal wights, and woe the while, if we attempt to overcraw them, they may raise a tempest of thunder to harrow our holy house, and bren us with the leven brand.'—'Be not accoyed, my brethren,' returned the prior, 'the piety with which you performed the vespers this evening, and the beadings you have made to God, the Holy Virgin, and all Saints, at that stound, shall abet you from danger of sorcery or enchantment: but well I wot the orgies now to be performed shall purify these walls from pollution, rather than endanger their downfall.' Dan John now threw the powder a third time into the fire, and then ordered the grooms to open the closet at the bottom of the hall, and incontinently a bevy of wanton bonnibelles rushed out, shrieking most pitiously, when they were discovered. The grooms, according to the orders they had received, laid on the lash with lustihed, reckless of the cries and jangles of the seely wantons. The ruthful beadsmen, to empeach the chastisement of their dear lemans, rose up eftsoons, and, rushing towards the door, attempted to burst it open; in the scuffle the tables were subversed, and the lights at the lower end of the hall were suddenly queint; the tumult became general, and the friars, muddled together with the wenches, were beat down the one over the other, and whipped in their turns; for the sturdy grooms favoured none who came near them. The sacrist, in forcing open the door, struck his forehead against one of the abutments, and was nearly drent with his own blood: the cellerer, hastening to his relief, fell over a form, and bared his shin to the bone. Both of them bawled aloud for relief; but their cries were not distinguished amidst the general steven, shrieking, and scathful uproar.

"The prior withdrew to his apartment at the onset, and took the two priests with him; and when he thought the friars, and their lemans, were sufficiently yspent, he caused the chapel bell to be rung, and sent the sub-prior into the hall, to call away the grooms, and stint the riot. When the tumult was aslaked, the friars were ordered to take their places in the chapel, which they did with much reluctance; and the prior came thither to them, attended by the two priests, in their proper habits: he then upbrayed them, with many bitter reproaches, for their lewd deportment, and especially for their lack of charity: when, having suspended the sacrist and the cellerer from their offices for a season, he imposed a heavy penance on the brotherhood, and hight them to sing the midnight service, which well ye may wot, my masters, was done with more dreariment than devotion, and every one of them was permitted to depart to his cell.

"The two priests were fairly appayed for their trouble, and slept warm and quiet: in the morning they brake their fast well, and were dismissed by the prior with his benediction, for having exorcised the holy house, and driven thence, with their due guerdon, the lewd spirits which had haunted it in his absence. And so ends my tale."

Of "Ancient Times," a drama, which closes the fourth volume, we cannot say any thing in praise. It is founded upon the well known story of Alfred penetrating into the Danish

camp in the disguise of a harper: a circumstance in our national history which well deserves a national poet to celebrate. But the play of Mr. Strutt is turgid and inartificial: the language is either swollen to bombast, or creeping in insignificance. The two Danish princes come in, and continue through a whole dialogue to out brag each other in what they will do: and one Saxon nobleman tells another that he has drawn a just portrait of his miseries, but asks if he can "add more?" This is too much for gravity. Nor is the language always grammatical, as when *Elfrida* talks of a "*retrospective* view of *past* events," and *Eldal* declares, "But time *or* absence never can efface, &c."

TRAVELS *in* TURKEY, ITALY, *and* RUSSIA, *during the Years* 1803, 1804, 1805, *and* 1806; *with an Account of some of the Greek Islands. By* THOMAS MAC GILL. 2 vols. 8vo 1808.

TO promise more than we can ultimately perform, is sometimes amiable, and may happen to any one, the warmth and generosity of whose feelings outstrip the estimations of their judgment: but to promise what we do not intend to perform, and what in fact we know we cannot perform, is not quite so venial. In this last predicament is our author, whose title-page excites expectations far, far beyond what the contents of the volumes will gratify. What he denominates *travels* in Italy and Russia have as much right to be so called, as if a Frenchman should land at Portsmouth, cross over to the Isle of Wight, sail from thence back to France, and then write an account of his travels in England. His excursions into Russia were confined to one or two ports in the Black Sea, and the reader may judge what he is likely to know of that immense territory. We consider this as a disengenuous proceeding, for the book has merit enough to do without it, and might have been properly titled.

There is no department of literature in which an experienced writer may appear with so much safety as in writing an account of travels, for it is scarcely possible that they should be written with such inferiority as to be utterly devoid of interest. He that has seen what few others have seen, comes forth with a title to attention, which a mind, eager for knowledge, will not stay to dispute. Whatever may be his attainments in other respects, here at least he has superiority. A common sailor, who had circumnavigated the world with Anson or Cooke, might hold, in the reverence of instruction, the mind of a Johnson or a Burke, for where we have not the power to contradict we are almost bound to acquiesce. Such an advantage, therefore, does the traveller possess over other men: and it would suppose uncommon sloth and dullness to be able to destroy that advantage.

Mr. M'Gill is not a traveller of the highest description. He cannot rank with Chandler, Tooke, Barrow, Stedman, &c.: he tells what he knows, but he does not seem to have been aware of what he ought to know. A man of learning seeks for knowledge: but he that is ignorant knows not what should be sought for. This is the distinction between Mr. M'Gill and a perfectly intelligent traveller. He resided a considerable time at Constantinople, but of the laws, government, &c. of the Turks we are told nothing: he crossed over into Troas Alexandria, and finds nothing but the tumulus of Achilles: he visits Smyrna, and talks of its being the birth-place of Homer, forgetting, or not knowing, that it was the Æolian Smyrna which claimed this honour, and which was not built on the scite of the present town.

Yet, we will not deny that we have read these volumes with pleasure. They are written in a lively manner, and sometimes give interesting information upon the manners and customs of the Turks. We will wave, however, any more general reflections, and proceed to extract some passages for the amusement of our readers.

They consist of a series of letters; the first of which is dated from Venice, in which we find nothing more worthy of notice than the following affecting anecdote if it be true. Describing the excesses committed

by the French in the Venetian territories, he adds,

"The most illustrious persons in Venice were reduced to the extreme of indigence; but, small was the number of those who escaped the general ruin. It was computed that this year, no less than a thousand of the heads of noble families were begging in the streets. At every corner, on every bridge, might be seen some fair Venetian lady, covered with a veil, and on her knees imploring the aid of charity; whilst her male relations were occupied in pursuits far less honourable, in order to procure subsistence.

"The distresses of the nobles and of the wealthy, were not confined to themselves alone; for, the Venetians being naturally ostentatious, thousands of menials and of the lower classes of the people, were supported by their bounty; these, therefore, were now abandoned to all the horrors of want; for, in the general disorder and misery of the state, where was employment to be found for them? Innumerable gay gondolas were laid aside, and their skilful rowers being utterly unqualified for any other occupation, were in a state of starvation.

"It is scarcely possible to depict the miserable situation of the nobles. The Abbé ———, a man of talents and of probity, with whom I was very intimate, one morning at breakfast related to me with tears in his eyes, the following circumstance, which he said, had happened only the night before. The Abbé had passed that evening at the house of a friend, in the course of it, they were attracted and charmed by the singing of a female in the street, immediately underneath the window. The pleasure of the good Abbé was, however, soon converted into melancholy; he thought he recognized the voice of a friend, and hastened to the street to ascertain the truth. The person was so muffled up that he could not discover her. He ran to her house, and his repeated knocks at the door were at length answered from within by her children, who informed him, that their mother had gone out with their father and a friend, to procure something for supper, and that having now no servant, they were locked in till their return. Being now persuaded that the songstress was his old friend, he returned to her, and with the utmost regret, discovered that she was the Countess C——r, who was thus singing in the streets, in the hope of collecting a few soldi to purchase food for her starving children.

"In her days of affluence, she had been a remarkably fine player on the piano-forte, as well as a charming singer; the Abbé, who possessed an excellent taste in music, had frequently joined in the concert with her. In those days, this unfortunate Countess was the ornament and the delight of the society in which she lived."

We willingly extract the following, because we think that the *humane* and *rational* sports of the turf might be bettered by an adoption of the Italian method of horse-racing:

"The method of horse-racing in Italy is singular: the horses run without riders, and to urge them on, little balls with sharp points in them are hung to their sides, which when the horse is employed in the race, act like spurs; they have also pieces of tinfoil fastened on their hinder parts, which, as the animals rush through the air, make a loud rustling noise, and frighten them forward: I was much amused with the horse-races at Ancona. A gun is fired when they first start, that preparations may be made to receive them at the farther end; when they have run half-way another gun is fired, and a third when they arrive at the goal. To ascertain without dispute which wins the race, across the winning post, a thread is stretched, dipped in red lead, which the victor breaking, it leaves a red mark on his chest, and this mark is decisive. The first race was declared unfair, as one horse had started before the rest, and the governor ordered another to be run the following evening. To guard the course, a great number of Roman soldiers under arms were ranged on each side of it, from one end to the other. The morning after the first race, the wind blew from the north, and was rather cold; I was sitting with his excellency the governor, Signor Vidoni, when a messenger arrived from the general, with his com-

pliments, requesting that the race might be deferred till another day, as he thought the weather too cold to put his troops under arms; the governor replied to him, that "as the weather was not too cold for the ladies, he thought it was not too much so, for Roman soldiers." I have seen on a day which only threatened rain, a guard of Romans turn out, every one of which had an umbrella under his arm, the drummer and fifer alone excepted."

The letters from Smyrna and Constantinople are among the most interesting. Of Smyrna, Mr. M'Gill informs us that the population is about 130,000 souls; and of these, about 70,000 are Turks, 30,000 Greeks, 15,000 Armenians, 10,000 Jews, and 5,000 strangers and Franks. The town not having been visited by the plague for these five years, the population has of course been upon the increase.

The commerce of Smyrna is very extensive. It is very seldom that there are in the roads fewer than from fifteen to eighteen ships loading for different countries, and under various colours. Their trade was formerly confined to the Mediterranean and the northern parts of Europe; but now it is nothing rare or surprising to see vessels loading for America, and even for the East Indies.

"In one year, beginning the first of September, and ending the thirty-first of August, sixty vessels arrived in Smyrna with rich cargoes from the following ports, viz. from London seven, from Triest eighteen, from Venice four, from Leghorn fifteen, from Holland three, from Marseilles eight, and from America five; besides an immense number from different ports in Turkey, of which no regular account is taken, and several also from the Russian ports in the Black Sea, which are not mentioned in the list shewn to me. I will at some future opportunity give you an account of the cargoes of the sixty vessels. In the same year, ninety-three ships were loaded with the produce of the country for different parts of Europe and America. Twelve were for London, forty-one for Triest, seven for Leghorn, five for Venice, seven for Holland, eighteen for Marseilles, and three for America: the last three carried little but specie and opium, and it is believed went first to Canton, and from thence by Cape Horn to America. Many cargoes of fruit, wine, and drugs are annually shipped for the Black Sea, which like the imports from that quarter are not enumerated; several of Valonea, and grain, are likewise sent on account of the Smyrna merchants from other ports on the coast, by ships which go from Smyrna in order to bring them: from the small port of Scala Nuova alone, upwards of twenty ship's load of beans are sent annually by these gentlemen to Spain, Malta, and Egypt. When I can get the list of imports finished, I will also give you a list of the exports.

"Smyrna has, with the principal mercantile towns in Europe, a regular exchange, which may be with propriety considered as forming a part of the commerce of the city, as it affords a wide field for speculation. I may at some future period, give you an account of the exchanges for several years, and if possible, another of the consumption for one year of European articles, with their aggregate prices; at present, I am not sufficiently acquainted with the trade to furnish you with them."

We could not but admire the very rational amusement of Mr. M'Gill in fishing all night in the gulph of Smyrna, wrapped up in a great coat, and going to sleep in the boat, waiting for the fish to pop into the net in the course of the night. How interesting it must have been, when he awoke, to find the net full! It seems it was a pastime, however, not altogether devoid of danger, for he was shot at in the dark by the Turks, who wanted his fish.

The plague, which commits such awful devastations in this part of the world, is thus guarded against by the Europeans who are there.

"The precautions used against the plague by Christians are simple and effectual: their houses, that is to say, the best houses in Frank-street, are for many reasons built like little fortresses, and in general extend from

the street down to the water-side: at each of them there is a strong gate, mostly of iron, to prevent their being set fire to, and within that one toward the street, at the distance of ten feet from it and each other, are two more formed of spars. When the pestilence rages violently, both the outer and inner gates are kept constantly locked, and the master, or some confidential person has the keys. When any one rings at the gate, the door is opened by a cord, and the person is admitted to the first spar gate, through which he communicates the intention of his errand; if he brings provisions, within the middle gate stands a large tub of water, into which they are thrown from a little door, and are not taken out again until the outer gate is shut: if bread is brought, it must be hot, at which time it cannot communicate infection. Letters and other papers are conveyed on the end of a piece of wood or cane, with a slit in it, and are fumigated with nitre and brimstone. By these means it is almost impossible that the plague should find entrance into the houses, where the inhabitants keep themselves closely confined till its rage is spent.

"The greatest danger is at the first breaking out of the disease, before they make use of any precautions, for they seldom think of shutting themselves up, until they hear of eight or nine accidents, as they are called, each day.

"In case of any member of a family being attacked by the plague, the person so seized is immediately carried to the hospital, the rest of the family sprinkle themselves with vinegar, and are fumigated; they generally leave the house they are in, and inhabit another for forty days.

"The hospitals are attended by persons who have had the plague; but it is a mistaken idea that, under these circumstances, they are secure from future infection. Padre Luigi, a humane friar, who has attended one of the hospitals for upwards of thirty years, says, that every time there is the plague in his hospital, his old sores open afresh, though with less virulence; but that a great number of the plague nurses die under as violent attacks of it as if it had seized them for the first time. This worthy father Luigi says further, that he never found any remedy so effectual as friction with oil, when applied in time, and carefully repeated: he has frequently witnessed its salutary effects."

It is an undoubted fact, that of any preventive remedy hitherto known, that of copious friction with olive oil is the most efficacious. In 1794, a poor woman was shut up in a chamber, in Egypt, with thirteen persons infected with the plague, of whom she had the care, and by means of unction she preserved herself from the contagion.

Mr. M'Gill is wrong in supposing that the ruins which he saw near the Cyster (p. 158, v. 1.) were those of the famous Temple of Diana, for, according to Chandler and others, not a vestige of that temple now remains.

With what indignation do we read of the Turks defacing the fine remains of antiquity: with their barbarous whitewash covering the coloured marbles to which they have an aversion, and destroying all the relics of sculpture they find, from a principle of religion!

The late Eliza Carter said of the Russians, that they were only beginning to walk upon two legs, and the following anecdote would warrant the inference that they have scarcely arrived at that enviable dignity; for the first consequence of incipient civilisation is the well defined limits of female modesty and propriety.

"You and I have often laughed at the strange description of the Russian baths; I believe only half the truth has been told to us. In these baths, that is to say, in the warm ones, both sexes meet promiscuously in a state of nature; and after washing, and no doubt admiring one another a considerable time, they plunge into cold water; but this indelicacy, as it would certainly be considered in Britain, is not confined to the baths. Shortly after my arrival here, I was standing on the beach, when a well-dressed female began to strip herself by my side; I concluded that she was out of her senses, and at one time thought of preventing her from so doing; she was, however, quickly undressed, and

ran off into the sea, buffeting the waves. I was presently convinced that the poor woman was not madder than the rest of her countrywomen, for I perceived several more of them coming, who soon followed her example, and swam about like a parcel of sea nymphs. This custom does not proceed from a want of modesty, it is merely peculiar to the nation; and although in the eyes of an Englishman it has a singular appearance, yet to a Muscovite there is nothing offensive to delicacy in it. One of our modest, half-naked British fair would be looked on by a Turk as the most abandoned of her sex, a supposition which alone would make her faint, but would not induce her to cover herself."

The second volume commences with a letter, which we have thought sufficiently interesting to give in the miscellaneous department of the present number: see p. 116.

We think Mr. M'Gill should have given an illustrative plate to his account of the Mussulman at prayers, when he tells us that he "*sits* on his *knees*." This is a posture of which we have absolutely no conception. And with all the credulity of which we are capable, we must really hesitate to receive our author's assertion, that the Turkish turban weighs half a hundred weight! Surely a Mahometan's neck must have some additional bones in it, to keep it perpendicular under such a constant burthen.

The following is ludicrous enough:

"It is a custom with the Turks, proceeding from their ignorance, when a prince or great personage dies, for their attendants immediately upon this event, to shew their high respect for the deceased, by beating the physicians and surgeons out of the house. The Validá had been in a weak dying state for some days, during which, my friend Lorenzo, her surgeon, and several of the eminent physicians, never quitted the house, but remained day and night in the seraglio. One of these mornings, very early, a dismal cry was set up, and several of her attendants came from the sick chamber bathed in tears; at this the faculty took the alarm, and, in order to save their shoulders, hastened from the palace as fast as possible."

We shall conclude our extracts from these volumes with the following account of the celebrated church of St. Sophia. The first two paragraphs are translated, says Mr. M'Gill, from an Italian author: the rest are his own:

"'St. Sophia is a mosque justly esteemed amongst the most valuable treasures about Constantinople. Constantine the Great built this temple in honour of the divine wisdom, and dedicated it to St. Sophia. In a dreadful sedition which arose in the capital, St. Sophia was demolished and almost reduced to ashes: the emperor Justinian, anxious for its preservation, rebuilt it with greater sumptuousness and elegance; it has eight entrances, including the porch of St. Sophia, five of which are in general shut; the porch is thirty-two feet wide. The entrance to the temple is by nine doors of bronze, which have been at some period gilt: they are magnificently wrought in relief; the one in the centre is eighteen feet high.

"'Every person, even at the first glance, must be struck with the beauty and the magnificence of this building; four grand pillars of forty-seven feet in circumference support the cupola, which is eighty-six feet in diameter; the flatness of this cupola is much admired; it has no more elevation than that of a perfect globular dome. The galleries are fifty-three feet high; the pillars of the upper one are of marble and porphyry, and are seventy-four in number; those of the under are of white marble; over the entrance of the temple are four columns of jasper; the walls are adorned with a stone of two different kinds, which in the rays of the sun, appears like the finest tortoise-shell. In the pavement of one of the galleries is to be seen a stone, apparently of porphyry, which is held by the Turks in great veneration, notwithstanding they assert from documents found in St. Sophia when the Ottoman arms conquered Constantinople, that this is the very stone on which the blessed Virgin washed the linen of the infant Saviour; therefore the few Christians who can obtain admission to this no longer church of Christ, but imperial mosque, regard this stone with great devotion, al-

though they are not allowed to carry away the smallest particle of it. The roof of St. Sophia was originally ornamented with mosaic work upon a golden ground, but the mussulmen, enemies to figures, have covered it with white-wash; the number of lamps and candlesticks are fewer than in their other mosques, and it has no ornament from their hands save a piece of cloth, on which is embroidered some passage of the Alcoran, which being made in the form of a flag, hangs from one of the columns: this piece of cloth was once part of the lining of a rich carpet which forms the door curtain of the mosque at Mecca.'

"The porch of St. Sophia, in which the patriarch of Constantinople was wont to perform divine service, is now occupied for the same purpose by the Turks; near it stand the Alcoran and other books which contain prayers to be recited on certain days and hours. The church has four towers, in which there used to be bells of a very great height, and of remarkably small diameter, near the summit, which is of brass gilt, they have a little balcony, from which the musaim or priest calls the five hours of prayer.

"St. Sophia has fountains and baths near it, at which the mussulmen perform the ablutions commanded in their law.

"In honour of the Turks it must be said, that, although now a Turkish mosque, St. Sophia retains all the revenue which it enjoyed when a Christian church, and this is immense. Even Mahomet the Second, conqueror of Constantinople, although his treasury was exhausted by tedious wars, never infringed upon it. It was said, that, in 1738, it exceeded fifty thousand pounds; it is drawn from lands and palaces, besides large sums paid by the Sultan, which were formerly given by the Greek emperors and princes for the privilege of building churches; this revenue is employed in keeping the temple in repair, and in cleaning it; in paying those who perform service in it; in the education of youth; and in daily charities to an immense number of destitute poor. The surplus is put into a case, and is called the sacred treasure; it is afterwards employed in useful purposes.

"It is the duty of the sultan to go to St. Sophia the first Friday of every moon: Friday, you know, is the day of the week which mussulmen devote to the service of God. The usual mode in which the Sultans go is on horseback, but when young it is not uncommon for them to walk thither. St. Sophia being so near the gate of the seraglio, Selim has of late preferred going to a mosque at a greater distance, that his subjects might have a better view of their prince. When he was in the habit of going to St. Sophia, the cavalcade was scarcely in motion before it reached the church, which occasioned much inconvenience, and obliged the spectators to huddle together, insomuch that many were hurt."

Our copious extracts from these volumes will convince our readers, that we do not consider them as being without merit. They are, in fact, entertaining, and sometimes instructive; and had Mr. M'Gill embraced a larger sphere of enquiry, he might have conferred upon his work a value which would probably have rendered it a book of permanent reference and authority: but as it is, we read it merely for amusement. The language is neat and appropriate, neither launching into hyperbole nor sinking into meanness: and though Mr. M. does not always view man and his actions with the eye of a philosopher, yet he never offends by petulance or flippancy. On the whole therefore our praise outweighs our censure.

ORIGINAL POETRY.

QUATORZAIN.

'TIS now of night the solitary noon,
And all is wrapt in silence and repose,
Save that I wander 'neath the waning moon,
And mar the stillness with my gushing woes!

To yonder low'ring pile, where hundreds sleep
On death's cold couch, irrevocably bound,
My devious feet shall steal: there will I keep
My lonely watch amidst the gloom profound!

There not unheard my sorrows shall I pay!
Nor tell the pain, unpitied, I endure!
But can my Love those rankling woes allay,
That proud Philosophy cou'd never cure?

Yes! e'en her shrine shall bid my anguish cease,
Whilst Virtue points me to the realms of peace!

Grafton street, July 1808. J. G.

SONNET TO AN EARLY POLYANTHUS.

CHILD of the Spring! who wav'st with bashful pride
Those mottled blooms, to lure the poet's eye,
Fain would I sing, if genius were my guide,
Thy charms, O flower so beautifully shy!

But since alas! is not bestow'd on me
That mental grace, the boon of heav'n above;
I'll wave my claim, and, since inspir'd by thee,
My simple song shall bear the grace of love.

Then let me counsel thee, my flow'r, to shroud
Thy tender blossoms from the dubious air,
The blighting mildew borne in yonder cloud,
And the rough storm which rising winds declare!

Or mark untimely death to be thy doom!
The blast of winter covets all thy bloom.

WM. TUCKER.

Tilshead, Wilts, Aug. 11.

TO THE ÆOLIAN HARP.

HAIL to thee! minstrel of the viewless air!
Whose trembling chords responsively attuned,
With sweetest music rises on the ear,
And lulls the soul in luxury of bliss!
Oft, when my mind oppress'd by heavy cares,
Has sicken'd at the world and all its charms,
I've sat and listened to thy swelling tones
And sigh'd responsive to their breathing sadness!
Oh! it has sooth'd me in the bitterest hours
When in the stillness of the middle night,
Which I have pass'd in solitude and pain,
Thy notes have breath'd upon the list'ning ear:
For I have given to thy melancholy airs,
When busy Fancy work'd without control,
Angelic form and voice; and lov'd to think
That hov'ring through the dark and midnight air
You tun'd your harps to Heav'n's eternal King!
How have I sat and listen'd, till my mind
Soared on the wings of rapt Enthusiasm,
And quitted for a time this earthly scene,
And mingled with celestial essences.
Then I forgot all bitter rankling cares,
But soon to fall again, and soon to feel,
With double force, the woes, the pains, that haunt
And chase me thro' this weary hated life!
Oh breathe, breathe again thy strains divine
Thou airy minstrel, and while I listen
To their dying falls, let me once more forget,
That fate has mark'd me for Misfortune's child.

W. M.

SONNET.

FULL oft at eve these pensive elms among,
Studious I roam, from every noise remote,
Save the harsh raven's dull-resounding note,
Or Philomela's melancholy song:—
Noise such as this to me congenial long,
Too long perhaps hath been; yet, still I dote
To hear lone music on the wild gale float,
When night's pale spectres stalk these woods along!
Here let me pause!—two years are scarcely past,
Since first I told her that my flame was true!
But not for me were Love's delights to last,
For soon the Flower, that so sweetly grew,
Destruction crush'd! and Oh! its matchless bloom
Now wastes unnotic'd in the lonely tomb!

Grafton-street, July 1808. J. G.

POOR EVE OF ST. MARK.

A Serio-comic Tale.

IN a village, remote both from city and town,
Liv'd the wife of an old parish clerk;
Her visage, once comely, was cover'd with down,
And they call'd her *Poor Eve of St. Mark.*

Her husband, returning one night from the church,
His limbs with cold-shiverings stark,
Heard a voice, that exclaim'd from beneath an old birch,
"Stay spouse of *poor Eve of St. Mark!*

The voice was not human! nor yet seem'd divine!
But most like the mastiff's gruff bark:
"Stay, villain, the deed, the sad deed, it was thine;
Thou hast murder'd *poor Eve of St. Mark!*

"Thy blows, and thy drunkenness, debts, duns, and art,
Thy inconstancy proved in the Park,
Have loosen'd the life-strings, and broken the heart,
Of thy wife, the *poor Eve of St. Mark!*

"Now Adam, take heed, to forgetfulness given,
Of the words that I bid thee to mark,
Ere the clock chimes a quarter, now tolling eleven,
Dead—dead is *poor Eve of St. Mark!*"

"Good ghost," replied Adam, quite palsied with fear,
(For he lik'd not such friends in the dark)
"Kind ghost! to my story, a short one, give ear,
How I lov'd my *poor Eve of St. Mark.*

"I never chastised her, but once, that I'll own,
Nor untrue was, save once in the Park;
For my debts, duns, and drunkenness, sure the're my own,
They concern not *poor Eve of St. Mark.*"

But the ghost, like a flambeau, red, raging, and round,
Quickly vanish'd in form of a spark!
Repeating the deep-echoed, horrible sound,
"Dead—dead is *poor Eve of St. Mark.*"

Now Adam, half-sinking beneath the sad shock,
Bent homeward his footsteps; but hark!
He scarce had proceeded, when loud chim'd the clock!
'Twas the knell of *poor Eve of St Mark!*

For when he arrived at his cot's close-barr'd door,
Long, long ere the rise of the lark;
He found—(who shall hear it?) the struggle was o'er,
And dead was *poor Eve of St Mark!*

The sight, like a shaft from the fell monster Death,
Pierced the bosom of Adam the clerk;
He fell—and exclaim'd with his last parting breath
I come, my *poor Eve of St. Mark!*

Both sleep in one coffin; while o'er them at night
Curs yelp, pointers howl, mastiffs bark;
And the ghost, as a flambeau emitting its light,
Cries *poor Adam and Eve of St. Mark.*

Pace requiescant. H. R. W.

SONNET.

NO more the splendour of the world can please,
Since Fate deprives me of my lovely maid;
No more the groves delight,—the woodland shade,
Alas! no longer can my anguish ease!

As if by sorrow bent, yon alder trees
Suspend their heads, and darken all the glade;
And here, where oft with Marianne I stray'd,
Sad lamentations sicken every breeze!

O! with what rapture have I heard the roar
Of waters, struggling down the rocky steep!
But ah! that rapture I shall feel no more,
For I am doom'd unceasingly to weep!

O'er that lorn spot where matchless beauty fades,
Amidst the horrors of the darkest shades!

Grafton-street, 1*st Aug.* 1808. J. G.

SONNET TO THE CARNATION.

HAIL, beauteous tenant of the verdant bow'r!
Thou brightest gem in Autumn's spangled crown!
Oh, I could suck the fragrance every hour
Of those resplendent blossoms, soft as down!

But hark! the rude blast rustling through the grove
With envious fury, fain would spoil thy form;
Then come, my flow'r, to Sylvia's safe alcove,
And shield thy blooms from elemental harm:

For she will grant the favor with delight,
(O may her virtues meet with Heav'n's reward!)
Taught by her own example to requite
The plea of worth, and beauty to regard:

Yes, in her bosom she'll allow thee room,
With her's to blend thy fragrance and thy bloom!

Tilshead, Wilts, Aug. 11. WM TUCKER.

SONNET.

HAIL! solemn haunts! hail! ever-tranquil bow'rs,
Where I, at eve, my charming Blackshaw sought,
And oft we spent the sombre visag'd hours,
Viewing the scenes by plastic Fancy wrought:—
Hail! solemn haunts! where I enraptur'd caught
My sweetest Girl, and press'd her to my cheek!
And where, thank Heav'n! my youthful tongue was taught,
The nervous language of the soul to speak!
O! how I dote to ponder on thy charms,
And think on days irrevocably fled,
Those happy days! when wrapt in soft alarms,
On Blackshaw's breast I lay my frenzied head!
But the recurrence can no bliss bestow,
That is not tarnish'd with the blackest woe!

Grafton-street, July 1808. J. G.

IMPROMPTU,

On the Soldiers being deprived of their CUES.

WHEN Cue, in the pride of his charms,
Cut off, from the occiput fell,
His friends, and companions in arms,
Thus bade him a mournful farewel:—

"Believe us, we ne'er can forget thee,
Nor cease thy sad loss to bewail;
E'en our foes shall have cause to regret thee,
For henceforth we can never—*turn tail.*"

H. R. W.

THE NEW PATENTS.

Mr. DIXON'S, *of Christchurch, Surrey, for an improved Method of constructing Cocks for stopping of Fluids, and which Cocks, by one motion or turn, will permit such Fluids to pass in different directions.*

THE plate A is a piece with two apertures, of any given dimensions, for permitting fluids to pass and repass to the pipe F, as may be required. Apertures of an oblong form are considered the best. The plate or piece A, and the other parts of the apparatus, may be made of any metal or materials, brass, iron, or whatever will agree with the nature of the fluids acting thereon. The surface of A is made sufficiently even and smooth on those parts which surround the apertures, and must be perfectly air and steam tight when it comes in contact with the moveable plate or piece B. The latter has also a curve, or space made or cut so as to be sufficiently wide to cover both the apertures, C and D, and the intermediate space in the face of the plate A, so that fluids may pass from or into the apertures of C or D, at the same time by moving the plate B in a direction parallel with its surface. By a similar movement, the communication between C and D may be shut, and a communication opened between these and other pipes alternately.

A second figure represents the said apparatus applied to a double acting steam engine; the application of this apparatus to steam engines, the patentee also claims as his invention.

Mr. CAPARN'S, *of Leicester, for a Machine for discharging Smoke from smoky Chimneys.*

THIS machine, which is called Caparn's smoke disperser, is to be placed on the top of the chimney over the vent or orifice, and secured to the same by brickwork, or any other method. The funnel of the chimney must be cleared from all contractions or obstructions, which might impede the smoke in its passage into the body of the machine. The current through the chimney gives a rotary horizontal motion to the flyers or vans at the top of the machine, which thereby disperse the smoke, and prevent the action of the atmosphere from returning it into the funnel of the chimney. The machine cannot be accurately comprehended without a view of the plates: it is sufficient to observe, that the body or the external case of the machine, and also the vans, or flyers, and the rim to which they are rivetted, may be made of iron, copper, or tin.

Mr. CHARLES LUCAS BIRCH'S, *of Great Queen-street, for an improvement in the construction of the Roofs and Upper Quarters of Landaus, Landaulets, Barouche Landaus, Barouche Curricles, &c.*

FRAME and fix in the top quarter rails, says the patentee, to the tops of the standing pillars and slats, and fix the slats to the neck plates: rabbit the inner parts of the standing pillars with the top quarter rails and the slats, and board them with thin deals, or any other proper material. Let the crown pieces or cornice rails be long enough to bevel or metre into the corners of the top of the standing pillars, and let in the hinges and the thimble-catches on the top of the crown pieces and top of the quarter rails. Fix on the hoopsticks, and back and front rails, and board them all up, except the two hoop-sticks, which are nearest to the hinges, which may be placed as close as possible to admit of the head striking conveniently low. Conceal or let in one or more boxed locks to the center-hoop-sticks, or at least the hoop-sticks which unite the thimble-catches, and fix them so as they may be opened by a key on the inside of the carriage. Stretch strong canvas, or other fit material, and nail it, or fasten it otherwise, both on the inside and outside of the slats and elbows, and stuff it between with flocks or tow. Stretch and fasten on canvas, or any other proper material, to the top hoop-sticks on the roof, which are nearest the hinges, before you put on the leather covering.

A carriage built on this construction will carry one or more imperials on its roof without interfering with the regular process of opening it, and will remain without doing the least injury to its upper parts. The spring curtains to the landaus also remain without being removed, whereas those on the old plan were obliged to be taken down, before there was a possibility of opening the carriage.

Mr. WEEK'S, *(Denbigh, Wales) for a new and improved Frame for forcing Cucumbers.*

THIS is a double frame, of which the external one is nearly similar to that which is already in use. The internal frame is made without covering, and with a boarded bottom, sufficiently strong for sustaining the weight of the earth placed on it, for the growth and sustenance of plants, and not on the dung or hot bed. The bottom of the external frame being larger than that of the internal, a space is left between the two for the admission of the heat to the plants, which passes from them to the hot bed thro' such spaces or cavities, and not to the roots of the plants through the earth, as in the common way. The internal frame is so contrived by means of rack-work, &c. that it can, with the earth upon it, and the plants growing thereon, be raised or drawn up altogether within the external frame, nearer to the glass lights; and by that means the plants or fruits may be made to receive a greater and more beneficial influence, from the rays of the sun: it may likewise be lowered at pleasure, and be suspended at any distance between the glass and hot bed, by which a due degree of temperature may be regulated. The admission of the heat from the hot bed through the cavities or spaces between the frame to the plants or fruits, is also an advantage, as it prevents the roots of the plants from being burnt or damaged by a superabundant heat arising from the hot bed through the earth.

TRANSACTIONS OF LEARNED & ECONOMICAL SOCIETIES.

ROYAL SOCIETY.

IT has been asserted by most writers and experimentalists, that silver burns with a bright emerald green light. In Mr. Davy's late lectures, the deflagration of silver leaf was attended by the emission of a brilliant white light, which the professor ascribed to the great purity of the silver employed; and he expressed an opinion that the green flame usually observed, arose from the admixture of copper with the silver. Mr. G. B. Singer has, however, discovered that

this phenomenon proceeds from a different cause. Having observed that Mr. Davy's conducting wires were terminated by charcoal, he repeated the experiment with a similar arrangement; and applying the charcoal to pure silver leaf, it immediately burned with a beautiful white light. Some of the same portion of silver having been before employed when the green flame was produced, it became evident that the white light in this and in Mr. Davy's experiment, proceeded from the charcoal; and that this was really the case, appeared from the immediate evolution of green light, when the contact was made by a metallic wire. By the application of charcoal to the extremity of a wire, so bent that either the wire or the charcoal may touch the silver at pleasure, the white and the green flame may be alternately produced, and thus at once afford a conclusive demonstration of the fact, and a pleasing variation of a brilliant experiment.

Mr. R. Knight has published a description of a new Eudiometer lately made on the suggestion of Mr. Davy, for the more commodious display of the formation of water, by the combustion of oxygen and hydrogen gas, by means of the electric spark. The instrument consists of a strong cylindrical glass tube to receive the gases, open at the lower end, of the capacity of two cubic inches, and graduated into decimal parts; and a stand to which the tube is attached by a clasp and screw; and of a strong iron cylinder, containing a strong spiral spring, on the principle of the pocket steelyard, the spindle, or central bar, of which is fixed on three feet, in order that it may be firmly secured on the side of a mercurial bath, with the mouth of the tube immerged in quicksilver. By this arrangement the sudden and violent expansion which takes place at the moment of the combustion of the gases, is relieved by the elasticity of the spring, which by yielding, allows the glass tube to be heaved up a little way, without being driven from its situation. The success of the experiment is thus secured, and all danger of accident to the apparatus, is effectually prevented.

In a late communication made by Mr. Davy, he stated that, since Nov. 1807, he had made a number of experiments on barytes and strontites, from which he inferred these bodies contained inflammable matter, and stated that his recent experiments with a voltaic battery of 36,000 square inches had been extended to the other alkaline earths, silex and alumine. All these bodies when slightly moistened and acted upon by iron wires, negatively electrified, undergo change at the points of contact. And the metals of the earths appear to form alloys with the negatively electrified iron. Mr. Davy has likewise metallized the earths by electrifying them when mixed with various metallic oxides, such as those of lead, silver and mercury. In these cases, the metals of the earths, and the common metals, are revived together in alloy.

Some recent experiments by two Swedish chemists were referred to: viz. M. Berzelius and Pontin, who have obtained amalgams of the metals of barytes and lime, by exposing the moistened to negatively electrified mercury; their method though it succeeds with strontites and magnesia, fails with alumine and silex. An interesting experiment made by these gentlemen on ammonia, confirms Mr. Davy's idea of its being an oxide with a binary base.

In a paper, read on the evening of July 8, Mr. Davy stated, that he had procured the metal of barytes in a pure form; that it was highly combustible, and rapidly decomposed water with the production of barytes. He had distilled the amalgam of the basis and mercury; and by similar methods he stated he had succeeded in obtaining the metals of strontites and magnesia, nearly pure. Mr. Davy also stated his intention of entering fully, at the next meeting of the Society, into the discussion of the theoretical views connected with this new subject, and its general relations to Nature and Art. The detection of a metallic substance in ammonia is a singular and most interesting fact; for it has been before proved to the satisfaction of chemists in general, that ammonia is composed of nitrogen and hydrogen; and it follows that either nitrogen gas, or hydrogen gas, or both, are composed of the ammoniacal metal, held in a gaseous form by caloric.

A paper, by Mr. Knight, on the alburnum of trees, being read, the Society adjourned till Thursday, the 10th of November.

WERNERIAN NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY.

AT their late meeting, the president laid before them three communications from Colonel George Montague, F.L.S. of Knowle House, Devon. The first of these communications contained an interesting view of the natural habits and more striking external appearances of the Gannet or Soland Goose. An account is likewise given of the internal structure of this bird, particularly the distribution of its air cells, which the ingenious author shewed to be admirably adapted to its continued residence on the water, even in the most turbulent sea, and during the most rigourous seasons.

The second communication was the description and drawing of a new genus of insect, which inhabits the cellular membrane of the Gannet, and to which is given the name of *cellularia bassani*. At the same meeting Mr. P. Neill laid before the society, a list of such fishes belonging to the four Linnean Orders, *apodes*, *jugulares*, *thoracici*, and *abdominales*, as he had ascertained to be natives of the waters in the neighbourhood of Edinburgh, accompanied with valuable remarks, and illustrated by specimens of some of the rarer species. Of the *apodes*, he enumerated 4 species belonging to 3 genera: 2 to muræna, 1 anarhichas, and 1 ammodytes. Of the *jugulares*, he mentioned 13 species, belonging to three genera: 1 callionymus, the gemmeous dragonet; for from examining many specimens, the author had concluded, that the *sordid dragonet* of Mr. Pennant and Dr. Shaw is not a distinct species, but merely the female of the gemmeous dragonet: 9 of the genus gadus, and 2 blennius. Of the *thoracici*, he stated 22 species belonging to 9 genera: 1 gobious, 2 cottus, 2 zeus, the doree and the opal: 7 pleuronectes, 1 sparus; the toothed-gilt head, a rare fish, of which only two specimens have occurred in the Frith of Forth: 2 perca, 3 gasterosteus, with 1 trigla. Of the *abdominales*, he had ascertained 14 species, belonging to 7 genera: 1 cobites, 4 salmo, 3 esox, the pike, garpike, and the saury or gandanook; which last, though rare in England, is not uncommon at Edinburgh, but arrives in the Frith almost every Autumn in large shoals, 3 clupea. Of the genus *cyprinus*, of which no fewer than ten species inhabit the rivers and ponds of England, including carp, tench, gudgeon, dace, roach, bream, &c. only one insignificant species, the author remarked, is found near Edinburgh, viz. the common minnow. The Mackarel, he classed under the genus *scomber*. The ray tribe, Mr. Neill reserved to a future meeting.

SOCIETY OF ARTS.

THE silver medal of this society has been voted to Mrs. D'Oyley, of Sion Hill, near Northallerton, for the following communication respecting a new method of rearing poultry to advantage. Mrs. D'Oyley observes, that the economy and facility of performing this method would, if generally adopted, lower the price of butcher's meat, and essentially benefit the community at large. I keep, says she, a large stock of poultry, regularly fed in a morning upon steamed potatoes, chopped small, and at noon they have barley; they are in high condition, tractable, and lay a very great quantity of eggs. In the poultry yard is a small building, similar to a pigeon cote for the hens to lay in, with frames covered with net, to slide before each nest: the house is dry, light, and well ventilated, kept free from dirt, by having the nests and walls white-washed two or three times a year, and the floor covered once a week with fresh ashes. When I wish to procure chickens, I take the opportunity of setting many hens together, confining each to her respective nest; a boy attends, morning and evening, to let off any that appear to be restless, and to see that they return to their proper places. When they hatch, the chickens are taken away, and a second lot of eggs allowed them to set again, by which they produce as numerous a brood as before. I put the chickens into long wicker cages, placed against a hot wall at the back of the kitchen fire, and within them have artificial mothers for the chickens to run under;

they are made similar to those described by Monsieur Reaumur, in his "*Art de faire éclorre et a élever en toutes Saisons des Oiseaux domestiques de toutes Especes.*" These cages are made of boards, about ten inches broad and fifteen inches long, supported by two feet in the front, four inches in height, and by a board at the back, two inches in height. The roof and the back are lined with lamb-skins, dressed with the wool upon them. The roof is thickly perforated with holes for the heated air to escape; they are formed without bottoms, and have a flannel curtain in front, and at the ends, for the chickens to run under, which they do apparently by instinct. The cages are kept perfectly dry and clean with sand or moss. The above is a proper size for fifty or sixty new hatched chickens; but, as they increase in size, they of course require a larger artificial mother. When they are a week old, and the weather is fine, the boy carries them and the mother to the grass plat, nourishes, and keep them warm by placing a long narrow tin vessel filled with hot water at the back of the mother, which will retain its heat for three hours, and is then renewed. In the evening they are driven into their cages, and resume their station at the hot wall, till they are nearly three weeks old, and able to go into a small room appropriated to that purpose, which is furnished with frames similar to the artificial mothers, placed round the floor with perches conveniently for them to roost upon. When I first attempted to bring up poultry in this way, I lost immense numbers by too great heat and suffocation, owing to the roofs of the mothers not being sufficiently ventilated; and when that evil was remedied, I found chickens brought up thus did not thrive upon the food I gave them, and many died, till I thought of getting coarse barley meal, and steaming it till quite soft; the boy feeds them with this and minced potatoes, alternately. He also rolls up pellets of dough made of coarse wheat flour, which he throws to the chickens to excite them to eat, and this causes them to grow surprizingly.

During two months experiment in the summer, of this kind, my hens produced upwards of five hundred chickens, four hundred of which I reared fit for the table or market. I used a great many made into pies for the family, and found them cheaper than butcher's meat. A young person, twelve or fourteen years of age, might bring up in a season, some thousands, and by adopting a fence similar to the improved sheep-fold, almost any number might be cheaply reared, and with little trouble. Hens kept as mine are, with the same conveniencies, will readily set four times in the season, and upon the lowest calculation at twice would produce eighty chickens each, which would soon make them very plentiful.

If this information should be so fortunate as to merit the approbation of the society, I shall consider myself highly honoured, and my time as having been usefully employed.

In an appendix to a rough sketch of the apparatus used by Mrs. D'Oyley, with a model of an artificial mother, &c. she adds "I have had great amusement in rearing poultry in the above way: and if my time was not occupied with my children, and other family concerns, I should most assuredly farm very largely in poultry, &c. &c."

CHINESE METHOD OF PROPAGATING FRUIT TREES.—Dr. James Howison, one of the learned members of this society, has given an account of the method used by the Chinese, who, in place of raising fruit-trees from seeds and grafts, as is the custom in Europe, have adopted that of *abscission*. Hence, they select a tree of that species which they wish to propagate, and fix upon such a branch, as will least hurt or disfigure the tree by its removal. Round this branch, and as near as they can conveniently to its junction with the trunk, they wind a rope, made of straw, besmeared with cow-dung, until a ball is formed, five or six times the diameter of the branch. This is intended as a bed into which the young roots may shoot. Immediatly after this, from the ball down to the wood for nearly two thirds of the circumference of the branch, they divide the bark. A cocoa nut-shell, or small pot is then hung over the ball, with a hole in its bottom, so small that water put into it, will only fall by drops; by this the rope is

continually moistened, which is necessary for the easy admission of the young roots, and to supply nourishment to the branch. For three succeeding weeks nothing is required but supplying the vessels with water. After this period, one third of the remaining bark is cut, and the former incision is carried considerably deeper into the wood, as by this time it is expected that some roots have struck into the rope; and are giving their assistance in support of the branch. After a similar period the same operation is repeated, and in about two months from the commencement of the process, the roots may generally be seen intersecting each other on the surface of the ball; which is a sign they are sufficiently advanced to admit of the separation of the branch from the tree. This is best done by sawing it off at the incision, care being taken that the rope, which by this time is nearly rotten, is not shaken off by the motion. The branch is then planted as a young tree.

To succeed with this operation in Europe, a longer period would be necessary, vegetation being much slower here than in India. I am, however, of opinion from some late trials on cherry-trees, that an additional month would be adequate to make up for the deficiency of climate.

Could forest-trees be propagated in this manner, the advantages would be very great; the adoption of this method will, however, be of great use in multiplying such plants as are natives of warmer climates, the seeds of which do not arrive here at sufficient maturity to render them prolific.

The practice of abscission accounts for fruit trees producing a greater crop than usual on being stripped of their leaves. It will seem singular that the Chinese have the same opinion with Linnæus, respecting the pith of trees being essential to the formation of the seed. By cutting into the trunk of the guave-tree, before it has produced, and making a division in the pith, they have obtained fruit without seed.

VARIETIES, LITERARY AND PHILOSOPHICAL;

With Notices respecting Men of Letters, Artists, and Works in Hand, &c. &c.

MR. CUSTANCE'S Concise View of the Constitution of England, will shortly make its appearance.

Mr. Wilkins, Jun. M.A. F.A.S. author of the Antiquities of Magna Græcia, has announced a translation of the Civil Architecture of Vitruvius, comprising those books of the author which relate to the public and private edifices of the ancients, illustrated by numerous engravings, exhibiting a parallel of antient architecture: with an introduction containing the history of the rise, progress, and decline of architecture amongst the Greeks.

The second volume of Mr. George Chalmers' Caledonia, or an Historical and Topographical Account of North Britain, from the most antient to the present times, with a dictionary of places, chronological and philosophical, is in the press, with maps, plans, &c.

The Rev. John Wools's second volume of Biographical Memoirs of the Rev. Joseph Warton, with a selection from his poetical works, and literary correspondence between eminent persons, will shortly make its appearance.

In the press, an Antidote to the Poetical works of the late Thomas Little, being an exposure of the sophistry and plagiarism of that publication.

Mr. Watt, of Paisley intends to publish Cases of Diabetes, with observations. His practise is new, and in many respects the reverse of what has been so generally followed these late years. The work will include cases allied to Diabetes, in which a similar treatment has been successful.

An account of the Kingdom of Nypal, in the East Indies, by Mr. Lawrence Dundas Campbell, from a Memoir of the Embassy deputed in 1798 by the Marquis Cornwallis, is preparing for the press. It was written originally by Colonel Kirkpatrick, the British envoy on that occasion. Nypal is a country singularly interesting, not only from the beautry of the scenery,

the uncommon salubrity of its climate, the variety and value of its physical productions, peculiarity of its government, but also from its contiguity to the British dominions in Bengal, and more particularly from the circumstance of its being at present a blank in our maps of Asia. The work will appear in the course of next spring in one volume royal and imperial quarto, with a map and engravings.

Mr. Accum will shortly publish a System of Mineralogy and Mineralogical Chemistry, with applications to the Arts. This work will be formed chiefly after Hany and Brougniart, and will make three octavo volumes.

The Rev. J. S. Clarke intends to publish a work, entitled Naval Records of the late and present Wars, consisting of a series of engravings from original designs, by Mr. N. Pocock, illustrative of our principal engagements at sea since the commencement of the war in 1793. The engravings to be executed by Fittler, Landseer, &c.

Two Speeches, delivered in Parliament by the Right Hon. *William Gerard Hamilton*, are shortly to be published. This gentleman was long known by the title of *Single* Speech, although Lord Orford in his Letters mentions his having spoken at least *twice*.

That very scarce work Puttenham's Art of Poetry will shortly come forward in a new edition, by Mr. Gilchrist.

In imitation of the antient *Lectionaries*, a Collection of the *Morning Lessons* for Sundays and the principal Holidays is shortly to be published as a companion to the Common Prayer Book of the Church of England.

ARTS, SCIENCES, &c.

Mr. Douglas Guest, an artist well known among the *Cognoscenti*, for his distinguished talents and critical Lectures in the Royal Institution, on the present state of the Arts in Europe, and son of Mr. Guest, of Salisbury, has produced a Picture from the scriptural subject of "The Flight into Egypt," which is affirmed by those conversant in art, to rank with the finest works of the Italian School, possessing all the grace and sweetness of *Correggio*, with more perfect design.

Mr. George Singer is now constructing an electrical apparatus with a cylinder of 18 inches diameter, mounted on an improved plan; which, from experiments made with cylinders of 9 and 15 inches diameter, promises to afford, at least, equal intensity and regularity of action with plate machines. A series of experiments will be shortly instituted on this apparatus, and their results communicated to the public.

A literary club has recently been formed in the metropolis under the name of *The Alfred*, consisting of two hundred members, who subscribe five guineas each, annually. The object of this institution is, that men of rank and fortune, frequenting the metropolis, should not be obliged to resort for social intercourse to those club-houses where deep play is allowed, but should have easy means of access to literary and polished society. A house is to be engaged in Albemarle or St. James's-street. Cards and dice and all games of chance are to be excluded. Newspapers and Reviews, a collection of maps, charts, and dictionaries, are to be procured, and all new works of merit are to be laid on the table on the day of publication, and remain there a month or longer. A Coffee-room will be open for the members; and in other rooms dinner parties may be formed. None but members of the club to be admissible into the house. Admission to the club by ballot.

Profitable manner of preserving fruit. —Take the bottles you design for your fruit, and set them up to the neck in boiling water for a quarter of an hour to exhale the air, and then put in your fruit, without sugar, filling them up with boiling water. Being corked up immediately, the fruit will preserve its flavour for a twelvemonth.

The three following modes of preserving woollens from the ravages of the moth have been lately proposed: —1, Ground black pepper scattered in the bottom of the drawer or trunk; 2, Pieces of Russia leather, the refuse of the book-binders; 3, Tobacco leaves folded up with the different garments; observing that the leaves of tobacco

should be renewed every three years. Branches or leaves of bay tree, wrapped up or laid among cloth, will also keep them free from moths, worms, and decay.

America.

The result of Capt. Pike's discoveries in South America, in 1806, has lately been made public. After the Captain's return from the sources of the river Missisippi, he was dispatched by the President on another expedition of discovery. He was attended by a military escort of twenty-two men, and the intelligent Dr. Robertson of St. Louis as a volunteer. In July 1806, they proceeded up the Osage river, till they arrived at the towns of that nation. They then undertook to interfere as peace-makers between the Osages and their neighbours, the Kanza tribe, between whom an exterminating war had subsisted a considerable time. Having succeeded Capt. Pike proceeded from the banks of the Kanza river across the country to the river Arkansa. On arriving at this great stream, they divided their party, while one section of them, commanded by Lieut. Wilkinson, descended to explore it to its junction with the Missisippi. Capt. P. with the other division ascended towards its source. From the great falls where it descends from the mountains, he made an excursion towards the river of Plate, and returned to another branch of the Arkansa He then travelled in a west south westerly direction, in the expectation of finding the upper part of the Red river, and of following it downwards to Nachitoches, and the junction with the Nashita, where Mr. Dunbar had been engaged in exploring; but in this he failed. The Red river had been described as originating in the high mountains, whence the other great waters of Louisiana proceed, and running a thousand miles and more from N.W. to S.E. On the supposition that the common opinion was correct, Capt. P. kept so far to the westward, with the intention of striking it nearer to its source, that he missed it altogether, the head of the Red river not being so high, nor its course so long by a great difference as popular rumour had represented. Pursuing his journey, however, he fell in with a river which, for some time, he supposed to be the Red. Near it he fortified himself, and hoisted the flag of his nation. He had not, however, been many days in his encampment before he was surprised at the sight of two hundred Spanish cavalry, from whose officers he first learned he had penetrated far within the acknowledged territory of Spain, in Mexico, and was actually occupying the margin of the Bravo, or the Rio del Norte. This river, from its source in the mountains to its termination in the Bay of Spirito Santo, is supposed to run a length of twenty-five hundred miles. After a parley and an explanation, Capt. P. ordered his colours to be struck, and consented to accompany the escort to Santa Fe, the seat of the Spanish provincial government. Here it was contended that Capt. Pike was a spy, and that the furry cloathing, &c. worn by his people instead of uniforms, were evident proofs of their sinister designs; however, the difference between them and the Spaniards being accommodated, they were permitted to proceed homeward by passing down the Bravo about six hundred miles, and thence traversing the Spanish governments and provinces in an easterly direction until they arrived at the post of Nachitoches on the Red river in July 1807. The general idea of these immense regions is that of the most dismal barrenness. For many a day's journey not a tree was to be seen: waste and sandy deserts occupy the principal spaces between the great rivers: numerous salt springs are also to be met with, too briny to drink, and the water even capable of being evaporated for the purpose of obtaining the article of salt. The wilderness of Louisiana, in this respect, bears a near resemblance to the deserts of Arabia and the Zaara of Numidia, and thus seems to form a wide and lasting barrier between the United States, and their neighbours to the west and south. This nakedness of the country seems to arise in many parts, not from the natural sterility of the soil, but is to be imputed to its impregnation with salt, producing only a coarse and scattered grass, which serves to feed the herds of bisons roaming over these dreary

tracts. From the scarcity of wood, it was sometimes necessary to collect the dung of these animals for fuel. Lieut. Wilkinson afterwards found the distance from the place on the Arkansa, where he separated from Capt. Pike, to be about fifteen hundred miles from the point of junction with the Missisippi.

France.

M. de la Chabaussiere, a French agriculturist, in reply to its being stated in some of the Journals, that in Saxony chesnuts are advantageously employed in feeding cows, speaks of the same method about Montpelier, at which place they are sold in the market. He regrets that so fine and so abundant a fruit has not been turned to more advantage. He observes,—"It has been suggested that chesnuts might supply the place of soap, and candles or tapers might be made of them. In Silesia they extract the oil from the feculum of chesnuts, and use the latter for making glue: this process was described in 1791, in the *Lycée des Arts.*

In the same country they make snuff of a black colour, and also a horse-medicine from chesnuts. Abbé Rozier says, in his Agricultural Dictionary, that the feculum of the chesnut, mixed with other fecula, will make wholesome and well tasted bread. M. le Bon, of Montpelier, after taking the bitterness of chesnuts away by maceration in an alkaline ley for twenty-four hours, and washing every day for ten days, boiled them three or four hours: they made excellent food for pigeons, and kept well some time after. The bark of the chesnut tree has been found a good substitute for the Peruvian bark. The tree was brought from Constantinople to Paris in 1615.

M. Peppers, apothecary at Azilles, has published some experiments to ascertain the nature of the acid formed in indigestion: from these he deduces, 1, That the distension of the stomach, in cases of indigestion, is occasioned by a carbonic acid arising from a commencement of decomposition, which the nutritive substances taken as food, chiefly cause when they are of the amylaceous vegetable kind; 2, That the burning pain which the digestive organ experiences, and which sometimes extends to the œsophagus, is owing to a quantity of acetous acid, formed by the complete disoxigenization of the aliment; 3, That eight ounces of roasted chesnuts produced two ounces and six drachms of acetous acid, after fermenting in the stomach an hour and a half; 4, That the method which has constantly succeeded with him as a remedy, and for persons who have weak stomachs is, to take after a meal, ten grains of powdered colombo-root, with twelve grains of calcined magnesia, mixed together, for a single dose.

The Gallican Church.—An article in a Paris newspaper says, that a lately published pamphlet of the Advocate Beaufont, on the subject of an union among the different sects of Christianity, has attracted very great attention. It appears in the form of a letter to the Emperor, in which the Author invites the maker of Kings to declare himself with regard to the Supremacy of the Gallican Church. In order to excite the Emperor to this, he shews by historical facts since the period of the Reformation, how much the reforms introduced by Luther and Calvin contributed to the defence of thrones, and to the peace of states. These ideas will enter still more into circulation, in consequence of a new edition of the *Prize Treatise* of M. Villiers, on the influence of the Reformation of Luther; these works appear precisely at a moment when every man sees before him the highest probability of a change of the Spiritual Hierarchy, at least in France, and on this account claim the greatest attention. From hints of this kind, it seems not improbable that it is the intention of Napoleon to call upon the Gallican Church to renounce the spiritual supremacy of the Pope.

Germany.

An article under the head of Mersburgh, June 10, says: "A distinguished professor in one of our colleges being desirous to excite emulation among his pupils, brought before them a child of only seven years and ten months. He listened with attention to the Greek lesson which the professor was expounding, and which he desired the child to go on with. All his astonished pupils heard the child construe, to the satisfaction of every one, a passage in Plutarch with which he

was previously unacquainted, and give every explanation that could be required.—Cæsar's Commentaries was next handed to him, and he translated, readily and distinctly, sentences which had puzzled the youths around him. In the course of his translating, he was also examined on the parts of speech, concord, syntax, &c. which he analysed and explained with a facility and accuracy which excited the astonishment of all who were present. He construed, likewise, an Italian book which one of the company had brought with him, and conversed familiarly in that language. The sequel of the conversation proved his extensive knowledge in history, geography, &c. Fortunately for this prodigy of learning, he is well formed, and enjoys perfect health. He possesses all the playfulness, all the modesty and simplicity of a child of his tender years, and is not even conscious that he is the object of universal admiration. His father is the celebrated Doctor Charles Wette, minister of Lochan, near Halle, who unfortunately refuses to communicate the method (peculiar to himself) which he adopted to instruct a child who resembles Heincken and Baratier, the prodigies of their times.

Holland.

The Jews.—It appears from the Dutch papers that, by a decree of the 4th of June, the Jews in the department of East Friesland were freed from all those restrictions by which they were separated from the other inhabitants. Of this sort were the various dues exacted from them on marriage, for permission of residence and protection:—the prohibition to acquire and possess landed property has also been abrogated, and they are placed in the same situation with those of their people who are in other parts of the kingdom.

MEMOIRS OF REMARKABLE PERSONS.

The Rev. Mr. WOOD, *Successor to the late Dr. Joseph Priestley, at Mill Hill, near Leeds.*

THIS gentleman, lately deceased, received his grammatical education under Dr. Stephen Addington, at Market-Harborough, from which place, his father being a Calvinist, he was removed, in 1761, to the academical institution at Hoxton; but he at length pursued the remainder of his studies under the direction of Drs. Savage and Kippis. Here he first became acquainted with the principles of Unitarianism and rational religion, which communicated no common lustre to the remainder of his life and character. The displeasure of his father on this occasion was very great, and produced for some time a cessation of personal intercourse. The dutiful conduct however of the son, and particularly his exertions to assist him, when he, in the latter part of his life, fell into difficulties, very much softened the father, and even led him to believe that so much goodness in his son, notwithstanding his want of an orthodox belief, might recommend him to the favour and acceptance of his final judge. In 1767, Mr. Wood, jun. succeeded Mr. Ralph in the charge of a small congregation at Stamford, from whence he removed to Ipswich, as assistant to the Rev. Thomas Scott, the learned translator of the book of Job, and author of a volume of Devotional Poems. In 1773, on Dr. Priestley's engagement with Lord Shelburne, he was invited to the congregation at Mill Hill near Leeds, whose highly respected pastor he continued till his death. In the years 1789 and 1790, he greatly distinguished himself as secretary to the united association of Protestant Dissenters of the three Denominations in the West Riding of Yorkshire, for co-operating in the application for the repeal of the Test Act. Several excellent papers were on this occasion the production of his pen, particularly an animated expostulation addressed to Mr. Wilberforce, upon his sentiments and conduct on that occasion.

About four years ago, he printed a number of forms of prayer for public worship, which have since been used in the morning service at Mill Hill. Of these, there is very respectful mention made, and a very high character of their author, by the Rev. Mr. Wyvil, in the sixth volume of his Political Papers, which contains three or four

of Mr. Wood's Letters. In his politics Mr. W. was a Whig. In the address which Mr. Wood delivered on the 19th of January last, in the Rotunda, adjoining the Cloth Hall, Leeds, he observed "It is my firm conviction, that if the measures you are now pursuing had been taken in the time of the late ministry, and before the death of the ever-to-be-lamented Mr. Fox, you would at this time have enjoyed the blessings of peace."

Hitherto we have only spoken of Mr. Wood, as he might have resembled many men. We come now to treat of that Philanthropy in which he probably surpassed them. In his sermon on *Universal Benevolence*, preached in 1781, are some striking passages, which, if they had fallen under the notice of the amiable and spirited author of the History of the Abolition of the Slave Trade, would certainly have secured Mr. Wood a place among the forerunners in this great cause, in his third chapter. The following passage in Mr. Wood's sermon is particularly striking,—"The God who made the world and all things therein, hath made of one blood all nations of men to dwell on the face of the earth, and hath determined the bounds of their habitation. And can we suppose that the difference in situation, which is intirely owing to his appointment, will justify a mutual jealousy and dislike? What are the distinctions of European, Asian, African, or American, when set in competition with the feelings of universal humanity? Is our good will to be bounded by rivers, mountains, and seas? Would a man have been entitled to our benevolence, had he been born on this side a small navigable strait, and may we regard him as an enemy because his parents happened to reside on the other? May the banks of the Ganges be lawfully made the scene of continual rapine, because their inhabitants are peacable and rich? Are contiguous nations to be considered as natural and perpetual enemies, purely because they are neighbours, and find an interest in exporting to distant climes the same natural productions and manufactures? I should be ashamed, even as a man, to propose these questions, if the sentiments of many who call themselves Christians, did not appear to solve them in the affirmation! But, as a preacher of the Gospel, I am bound to inculcate a very different turn of mind, and to enforce the obligation of universal benevolence. When we look down upon the world from the lofty eminence of revelation, all its little party divisions immediately disappear: we see nothing but the general connection and symmetry of the whole. We speak to men as the children of the Universal Parent, and not to Britons as the rivals of France. We remind you that, however temporary misunderstandings may sometimes interrupt the intercourse of nations, or the wicked ambition of princes plunge their subjects and neighbours in the miseries of war, all the inhabitants of the earth sustain a mutual fraternal character, which neither themselves, nor any human power can ever dissolve. We assert that if you are capable of wishing the destruction of an enemy, and of rejoicing when he is deprived of the comforts of life, you are strangers to the influence of the gospel principles, and are Christians only in name. In a contest (viz. the present war) which hath gradually extended its fatal effects, and which by a combination of singularly unfortunate circumstances hath been pursued with an uncommon degree of passionate asperity, we are fearful that even the *human character* should disappear with the *Christian*, and the *man* be lost in the *Fiend*." This is indeed a new situation; but the language of inspiration will certainly bear Mr. W. out in his apprehensions. Such days are hinted at in *Matthew* xxiv. 21, which, if "*not shortened*," would lead to an extermination of the whole human race! It is also a question put, "When the son of man cometh shall he find faith on the earth?" A similar time is also spoken of Esdras II. Chap. xv. and Rev. xi. 18, "When *Princes* shall measure their doings by their power," and when not merely individuals, but *nations* should *be angry*. Mr. Wood's publications were mostly sermons, and the Forms of Prayer before mentioned.

STATE OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS.

THE cause of liberty is not to be despaired of. The French are not entirely driven out of Spain, yet every account from that country encourages the enlivening hope, that it will be soon in a situation to make its own laws, to choose its own king, and maintain its independence. This glorious opportunity will not be lost. At present, each province has its separate committee, and the nation is represented in various corresponding societies. They have a common object in view, and as long as that is unaccomplished little apprehension need be entertained of the effect of mutual jealousies. They are fortunate also in having a grand constitutional object to attain, the establishment of the Cortez or parliament, which may have the supreme command, and reestablish the unity of the kingdom. This point has been deservedly dwelt upon by one Junta, of which the Count of Florida Blanca is a member: but he seems to have no views further than the return of the Cortez on its ancient footing, that is, on the plan of a very imperfect representation of the people. To this it is not likely that the people will consent: and now that they have arms in their hands, and have proved themselves capable of exercising their rights, they will take care that their Cortez shall consist of men who have an equal interest in the kingdom with themselves, not a set of individuals whose great object is to get as much power as possible for themselves, and with as little regard as possible for their inferiors.

Two grand facts have occurred since our last—the defeat of the French under Dupont in Andalusia, and the retreat of Joseph, the pretended king, from Madrid. By the former, the south of Spain is entirely cleared of the French, the great army having been destroyed either in the field of battle or by capitulation. All the scattered troops, that may be to the south of the passes of Sierra Morena, must therefore surrender, and the seizure of those passes prevents the introduction of fresh troops. In fact, nothing but a very large army could think of re-entering Andalusia; and such an army cannot be collected for this purpose without leaving its rear open to an attack from the united forces of the Spaniards to the north, and the French thus placed between two fires must surrender. The Andalusians have therefore much to boast of, in the deliverance of Spain. To them the nation is indebted for the seizure of the French fleet, and the annihilation of an army. This will give Seville a great influence in the restoration of the government. Its Junta has already a command over a very extensive district; and as the French are driven out from other districts, this Junta will be enlarged, probably by deputations from the Juntas of the freed provinces.

Curiosity will naturally be excited to see in what manner the nobility will be received who formed the pretended Cortez at Bayonne, and placed one of the Napoleon dynasty on the throne. They are the chiefs of the ancient nobility, and possess very great property; and they have been placed in a situation which required a degree of magnanimity, that the example of France has proved to us, is not to be expected from the heirs of ancient families. It may be urged also, in extenuation of their cowardice and criminal conduct, that, previous to the general rising of the people, such an event was not to be expected. The Spanish character, they would say, was entirely degraded and lost, and it was impossible to rouse their countrymen to an energy capable of meeting the conquerors of Europe. They were by no means singular in this respect, and posterity will read with equal astonishment, that a people, supposed to have been lost in superstition and fettered by the tyranny of a vile government, in an instant broke its chains and asserted the rights which belong to man, and which it has been so much the fashion of late years to hold in contempt.

One good result attending the meeting at Bayonne is, that the nobles which formed it will be marked, and not one of them is likely to be a mem-

ber of the new Cortez. Indeed many of them will follow the fortunes of the pretended king, and the others will think themselves sufficiently fortunate if they are permitted to enjoy their fortunes without interfering in public affairs. Thus Spain will be relieved from the intrigues which would have been constant in a supreme assembly, of which they were members. New persons will be chosen, and we shall see in them what is the real Spanish character. Great ignorance has long prevailed on this subject, from the few travellers that have been in that country: yet that it is not so deficient in talents as is generally imagined, we have a proof—one of the best mathematicians now in this country is a Spaniard born, but naturalised among us, and who by his writings and very laborious tables has done great and essential service to navigation. He was a captain in the Spanish navy; and weak must be that government which exacts conditions, disabling its best subjects from serving it. We have, however, striking instances of this folly in other countries beside Spain.

In this glorious struggle for liberty in Spain the people of England have fully entered. On the first war with France, after its revolution, there was a diversity of sentiment. The friends of liberty in this country saw with regret that our arms were united with those of the continental despots. The war on the continent was originally a war of kings against the people; they feared the spreading of liberty, and took the best means, though unwittingly, for encouraging it. On this struggle in Spain there cannot be a doubt in any English breast. It is a war of the people, undertaken by the people, and for the rights of both crown and people. The kings who have crouched under Bonaparte must now see what a people can do; and that if kings reign justly and wisely, if they consider the interests of the people as their own, and understand that they hold a place not formed for mere personal convenience, but for the good of the people, they need not dread the attack of any foreign enemy. The arms of France have hitherto been irresistible, because they have no where met with a people to contend with. Disciplined armies met with disciplined armies, and the discipline and skill of the French being superior beat down all opposition. The people in whose country the battle was lost, were not trusted with arms. The prince was more fearful of them than of the enemy. In Germany, indeed, the country was divided into such petty districts, with separate interests, that the people could not be combined together in one common cause. In Spain they are all one people, fighting for national independence.

Every body knows with what enthusiastic ardour the Spanish deputies have been every where received. The *Te Deum*, sung for the victory of the Andalusians over the French, was heard by more protestants than catholics; and overlooking the fopperies of the Mass, the English joined in the action of thanks, as thinking the Spaniards engaged in a cause which belongs to all mankind. The same sentiment prevailed in the convivial meetings to which the deputies were invited. It is in these meetings that the heartiness, if we may so term it, of our character is displayed; and the Spaniards must be convinced, that we feel for them as we should for any district of our own invaded by the enemy. We trust that this will lead to a solid union between the two countries: and whether it does or not, it will be creditable to England that, as it protected religious liberty against the Spaniards when in Queen Elizabeth's time they were attempting to crush the Dutch, we are equally zealous for political liberty in assisting the efforts of the Spaniards against the usurpation of the French.

The pretended King of Spain, in leaving his capital, has taken care to secure to himself what he supposes to be his own property, that is, all the royal goods and chattels, vestments, jewels, and treasures he can lay hold of. This is of little consequence. Let him carry away such spoils. They are easily renewed, or if not, there are brighter jewels that the new king may possess; and if he has the love of his subjects, he need not envy the diamonds in any crown. But it is

doubtful whether the pretender will be able to make his escape. He has the advance, indeed, of the Andalusian army; but checks may be thrown in this way by the levies from the northern provinces. At any rate, it is not of great consequence. If Spain once gets rid of the Frenchmen now within the realm, it need not fear the re-entrance of their most powerful armies, even headed by Bonaparte.

The capital of Portugal is, now that we are writing, in the hands of the French; but before this comes into the hands of our readers, we expect to hear of its surrender to the united arms of the Portuguese and English. The north and south of Portugal has declared itself: the capital and district around it alone is in the possession of the French. It is not probable that they can long hold out against such a force. The English have effected a landing of one body of troops to the north of Lisbon, at the distance of about thirty miles: another body was expected soon to join it, and they would be assisted by the Portuguese camp near Coimbra, the number of whose troops is not ascertained, but from the general rising of the people we cannot doubt that it must be very considerable. Junot and our admiral have each issued their manifestos. Junot not forgetting to attack us on the score of heresy: but bad as our faith may be supposed to be, the French have given such proofs of theirs as will not endear them to any catholic. The Russian fleet is thus in a perilous situation, it cannot come out for fear of our blockading squadron; and if it remains in the Tagus, it must yield either to the forces on land or to our squadron, which will be enabled to enter the Tagus as soon as our troops have taken possession of the forts which guard its entrance.

Thus a most wonderful change will be effected, opening a new scene of things, whose results no one can calculate. A few months ago all the coasts of Europe were under the immediate command or the influence of Bonaparte. Those of the peninsula of Spain and Portugal are now separated from his yoke, and not only separated, but they are become hostile to him and friendly to us: their fleets will be united with our fleets, and we need no longer dread any naval armament that Bonaparte may prepare for our invasion. What will be the use made of these opportunities? Will the mighty conqueror submit to a peace? Will he consent to be confined within his lately acquired dominions? or will the success in Spain lead to a new war to terminate in the ejection of the French in Italy, and the establishment of the independence of that peninsula?

In all this history we cannot account for the politics of Bonaparte, and that he should have ventured such a change in Spain without better security of success is what was not to be expected from so profound a statesman. In another quarter also opposition to him is now seriously talked of. He has quitted Bayonne, and is said to be expected soon on the banks of the Rhine. Austria is refractory, and is resolved to try again its fortune with the French. If it does, this will be merely a common war, with no great interest attached to it: whether the Austrians beat the French, or the French beat the Austrians, is of no other consequence, than as it weakens our enemy and prevents him from pursuing his schemes of universal domination. The great point will be, if this war engages his attention so as to prevent him from attending to the affairs of Spain, then the Austrians will be doing some good: but every one must deprecate the success of the Austrian arms, if it should be attended with their re-entrance into either Germany or Italy. One great benefit of the continental war has been the overthrow of the Austrian power in those countries, and we hope that it will never be re-established in either of them.

Italy remains quiet in these commotions, not long to be so, as probably the King of Sicily will meditate a return to his dominions. His conduct on his former restoration will not excite many wishes for his success, and we shall lament that the change excited by the Spanish struggle should restore the Pope to his temporal dominions. The crisis is very extraordinary, and no one can tell what it may produce: but mankind are not

grown wise enough to find out the means of terminating their differences without bloodshed, and of preventing one set of men from rising after another to carry on the same system of arbitrary power.

The war in Sweden seems to be forgotten: even the strange return of our army from that country excites no more surprise, and it is considered as a fortunate event that we had so great a disposeable force for the south of Europe. Finland continues to be the scene of action. The Russians retain the chief positions, from which they will not easily be driven: but they do not seem likely to advance farther into the country. The chivalrous king is playing his part very well, but all will probably soon end in a negociation. As to the war between the Danes and the Swedes that is very languid, and the Danes are not very active in their exertions against us. In fact, this petty war in the north is of little or no consequence; what turn it will take depends much on the issue of the affairs of Spain.

America retains its wise position. Spain and Portugal are now open to its vessels without fear of our cruisers. How far it will avail itself of this opportunity time will discover. Jamaica has presented a very extraordinary and a very melancholy scene. Government has there some black regiments, which are recruited from the new arrivals from the coast of Africa. These are all purchased, and of course a black soldier is a very dear bargain. About fifty of these recruits were exercising one day, when a fit of phrensy or what we call mutiny seized them, and they rushed in one body from their posts and murdered several of their officers. The unhappy wretches were soon surrounded by a superior force, tried for their offence, and many of them were shot. The assembly of Jamaica has very wisely petitioned the governor for the removal of the black corps out of the island. At any rate it should not be permitted to receive any but those who were born in the West Indies.—In the Brazils the Prince of Portugal is very happily settled, and a considerable trade is opened between that country and England. He has issued a manifesto against the French, vindicating his conduct, and abusing the Emperor. It conveys no new facts, and cannot excite much interest.

Among the dinners given to the Spanish deputies in town, one was made by the merchants. At this Sir Francis Baring presided, and toasts were given suited to the occasion. Of course the sovereigns of the friendly powers took the lead, and the healths even of the Kings of Sweden and Sicily were received with very great applause; but that of the President of the United States of America was marked by hisses and groans and other specimens of disapprobation. Sir F. Baring has justified himself in giving this health, in a letter in the public papers, on the plea that the occasion required that the health of the friendly powers should be given; but we wish that he had added, that no one sovereign, whose health had been drunk, was more entitled to it, than the President of the United States: for, if the same insults had been offered on our coasts by his vessels that the Americans have received from ours on their coasts, our return would have been very different. In the difficult crisis, in which he has been at the helm of government, he has conducted himself with wisdom and fortitude, which will excite the admiration of posterity.

BOOKS PUBLISHED AUGUST 1808.

☞ *As this Department will be of great Importance to* AUTHORS *and* BOOKSELLERS, *as well as to Literature in general, it is requested that* NOTICES *of Works may be forwarded as early as possible (free of Postage), which will be regularly inserted.*

ARTS AND MANUFACTURES.

AN Essay on the Teeth of Wheels, comprehending their Principles and Application in Practice to Millwork and other Machinery; with numerous Figures. By R. Buchanan. 8vo. 7s.

ANTIQUITIES.

Catalogue Raisonné of the Pictures belonging to the Marquis of Stafford,

in the Gallery of Cleveland House. By J. Britton, F.S.A. Small paper 7s. Large, 10s.

BIOGRAPHY.

Memoirs of the public and private Life of Sir R. Phillips, Knight, High Sheriff for the City of London and County of Middlesex. 5s.

Memoirs of the Life and Writings of Sir Philip Sydney. By T. Zouch. 4to. 1l. 5s.

The Life of Abraham Newland, late Principal Cashier at the Bank. 5s.

BOTANY.

A Catalogue of Plants growing in the Vicinity of Berwick-upon-Tweed. By J. V. Thomson, Esq. 5s.

DRAMA.

The Day after the Wedding; or, A Wife's first Lesson. 1s. 6d.

Juvenile Dramas. 3 vols. 10s. 6d.

EDUCATION.

Letters on Literature, Taste, and Composition, addressed to his Son. By George Gregory, D.D. 2 vols. 12mo. 12s.

The British Cicero; or, a Selection of the most admired Speeches in the English Language. By T. Browne. 3 vols. 8vo. 1l. 11s. 6d.

The Wonders of the Horse, recorded in Anecdotes, and interspersed with Poetry. By J. Taylor. 2s. 6d.

HERALDRY.

A Biographical Peerage of the Empire of Great Britain; in which are Memoirs and Characters of the most celebrated Persons of each Family. 2 vol. 18mo. 16s.

HISTORY.

Annals of George III. from His Majesty's Accession to the Throne, to the unparalleled Victory of Trafalgar in 1805. By W. Green, A. M. 2 vols. 8vo. 14s.

History of Bristol. By J. Corry. Part I. 8vo. 3s. 4to. 6s.

LAW.

The Trial at Large of an Action brought by Sir John Carr against Hood and Sharpe, for the Publication of a Caricature. Taken in short hand by T. Jenkins. 1s. 6d. Sherwood and Jones.

The Laws and Practice of Patents for Inventions. By W. Hands, Gent. 8vo. 6s.

MISCELLANIES.

The Young Sea Officer's Sheet Anchor; or, a Key to the Leading of Rigging. By D. Lever. 4to. 3l. 3s.

Observations on the Memoirs of the public and private Life of Sir R. Phillips, Knight. 6d.

MEDICINE AND SURGERY.

Anatomia Britannica: a System of Anatomy and Physiology. 3 vols. 12mo. 15s.

Anatomical Plates of the Arteries of the Human Body, accurately coloured. 8vo. 15s.

NOVELS.

Belisaire. Par Madame de Genlis. 2 vols. 12mo. 8s.

The Child of Mystery: a Novel. By Sarah Wilkinson. 3 vols. 12mo. 15s.

[redacted]king Likenesses; or, the Votari[redacted] Fashion: a Novel. By Louisa S[redacted]nhope. 4 vols. 12mo. 1l. 2s.

The Old Irish Baronet; or, Manners of my Country: a Novel. By H. Rouvierre. 3 vols. 12mo. 15s.

Unfortunate Amours; with Biographic Sketches of noted and eccentric Characters. 4 vols. 12mo. 1l.

The Illusions of Youth; or, Romance in Wales and Common Sense in London. By C. Cordova. 4 vols. 18s.

Royal Intrigues; or, Secret Memoirs of Four Princesses. By J. P. Hurstone, Esq. 2 vols. 12mo. 10s.

The American Savage; or, Orab and Phœbe. By Mrs. Barnaby. 2 vols. 12mo. 9s.

The Itinerant; or, Memoirs of an Actor. By S. W. Ryley. 3 vols. 1l. 1s.

POLITICAL.

A Letter to his Majesty's Ministers, relative to the Appointment of a Commander-in-Chief for the British Forces in Spain. By W. Playfair. 1s.

An Historical Survey of the Foreign Affairs of Great Britain. By G. F. Leckie. 6s.

The Imperial Conspirator Overthrown; or, Spanish Poison for Subjugation. By P. H. Edwards. 1s.

John Bull; or, Prophecy applied to passing Events. 1s. Sherwood and Jones.

An Essay on Government. By Philopatria. 7s.

Hints to both Parties; or, Observations on the Proceedings in Parliament upon the Petitions against the Orders in Council. 2s. 6d.

Public Spirit. 3s.

POETRY.

Hints to J. Nollekens, Esq. R.A. on his modelling a Bust of Lord Grenville. 2s. 6d.

Eccentric Tales in Verse. By C. Crambo. 12mo. 5s.

Tales of the Robin and other Small Birds. Selected from the British Poets, by J. Taylor. 2s. 6d.

A Tribute to the Memory of William Cowper, author of the Task. By J. T. S. 2s. 6d.

The Irish Musical Repository, a companion to the English and Caledonian Repository. 4s.

The Caledonian Tea-Table Miscellany, consisting of choice Songs. 2s. 6d.

An Address to Time, with other Poems. By J. Jackson. 2s. 6d.

RELIGION.

Animadversions on the Rev. William Parry's Strictures on the Origin of Moral Evil, in which the Hypothesis of the Rev. Dr. Williams is investigated. By T. Hill. 3s.

Illustrations of the Four Gospels, founded on circumstances peculiar to our Lord the Evangelist. By J. Jones. 12s.

The Importance of educating the Poor: A Sermon, preached July 17, 1808, at the Blackfriars, Canterbury, in behalf of the Royal Free School. By the Rev. John Evans. 1s.

A Discourse on the Being, or Existence of God. By the Rev. C. Hodgson, LL.B. 1s. 6d.

Christian Liberty advocated: A Discourse, delivered June 29, 1808, at the Unitarian Chapel in Lincoln. By H. H. Piper. 1s.

TRADE AND COMMERCE.

Tables of Simple Interest, and of Commission, Brokerage, or Exchange, at the usual rates per cent. By W. Stenehouse, F.A.S. E. 8vo. 1l. 1s.

HISTORICAL CHRONICLE.

The EPISTLE *from the yearly* MEETING *of* FRIENDS, *held in London, by Adjournments, from the 18th to the 27th of the Fifth Month*, 1808, *inclusive.*

DEAR FRIENDS,

WE are disposed again to pursue the current of Christian good will, which has so often induced us to furnish you with a written memorial of our concern and love for our brethren, dispersed in their various allotments in this kingdom and elsewhere; and thus to fix, for your advantage, some traces of those impressions, which, while reviewing the present state of our Society, have been made on our minds. If we are at all instruments in the hand of the Lord to "comfort the feeble-minded," among you, "to support the weak," to encourage the upright, or to arouse the careless; we pray that he, by his almighty influence, may firmly establish in your hearts every good purpose to which our words may excite you; and bless every cup of consolation which he may enable us to hand forth. Thus, dear friends, again we salute you in love—in gospel love.—How animating is the ability to consider ourselves the common children of one Benevolent and all Powerful Parent, to depend upon him for own preservation, and to implore him for that of our neighbour! Surely! shall we not thus draw nigh to the accomplishment of those eternal commands, "Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy strength, and with all thy mind; and thy neighbour as thyself?"

The accounts which we have received at this Meeting respecting the present state of our religious Society, in the several Quarterly Meetings, continue to affect us with the relation of divers instances of remissness in religious duty, which do not meet with their due share of admonition. Nevertheless we believe that in other cases, the diligence of upright friends, to give counsel where it is absolutely necessary, has produced effects which should encourage perseverance. The spirit which tends to scatter and destroy, unless vigilantly withstood, is continually at work; and we request you, beloved brethren, to continue

vigilant, and not to be satisfied with any former exertions, whilst the lamented evils remain. We call upon you, by that love and compassion which, if you are in your places, you must feel for the negligent, not to slacken in your endeavours to stir them up to diligence. Be persevering and patient. "Stablish your hearts."—This exhortation has been drawn from us by more than a jealousy, that such as are in the frequent neglect of our religious meetings, are suffered too long to remain without counsel. Counsel, we know, may be disregarded; but blessed is he, who, under the holy influence of love, having dispensed it in due season, can feel himself clear of owing any thing to his brother on this account.

Our concern for the preservation of brotherly love remains strong and unabated. When assembled in this Meeting we have special cause to know the invigorating, uniting effects of it. Therefore, were there no other inducement, we should still be disposed, from time to time, to renew our earnest and pressing exhortation, that it may abound and flourish amongst our dear brethren in religious profession. Enmity, even in a small degree, pollutes the mind, and renders it unfit to approach with acceptance that pure and holy Being, of whom the beloved disciple thus emphatically testifies, "God is love." Do we not peculiarly lament the wide spread of distress, which the spirit of contention is, even now, occasioning to suffering humanity? This, though it differs in degree, springs from the same root as private ill-will. Therefore a people abhorrent of war, if they are consistent, will watch against the smallest bud of enmity, as it is conceived, on any occasion, in the heart. And the man who, in the school of Christ, hath learned the useful lesson of self-denial, will often make a sacrifice of his own will and opinion, though he may esteem them to be right, rather than persist in them, at the expense of Christian fellowship.

It is much in the power of those who have the care of young children, to prepare their minds for the salutary restraints of the cross of Christ; and those who thus co-operate with his Holy Spirit, which early visits the tender and flexible mind, may expect (and what better *can* they seek?) his all-sufficient blessing upon themselves and their offspring. Therefore, ye fathers, and ye mothers, let us entreat you to consider the earliest subjection of the will as the first step in education.—It will generally insure to you that desirable ascendancy over the minds of your children, which will prevent the need of future severity; it will enable you to govern them by love; and thus you will be rendering your own way more easy, at the same time that you are serving the Lord. And friends, we beseech you, as their understandings ripen, to take due opportunities of opening to them the benefits of the restraints which your duty leads you to impose. Among some of the most irksome to the lively dispositions of youth, are often those which relate to speech and dress. But as we know that the ground of our dissent from the world in these things, is Christian simplicity; so we know by experience, that they are often the means of defence against temptation to mingle in the company of such as, not being thus subject to holy restraint, are unsuitable examples for our youth to observe and to follow. And when by the gentle intimations of Truth in their ripening understandings, they are entered on a course of self-denial, they will feel you doubly dear to them, for having led them on in the way they should go, and will bless the Lord on your behalf.

Thus have we again touched upon some of the most important objects of the constant care of this Meeting, and indeed of all those who desire to see our Society builded up as a city that is compact together. "Jerusalem," saith the Psalmist, "is builded as a city that is compact together; whither the tribes go up, the tribes of the Lord, unto the testimony of Israel."

We may now turn from subjects which concern every state in life; and direct the course of our Christian counsel to the states, more in particular. And first, you who are not intrusted with much of the possessions of this life, you are still the objects of our constant care. The Society has long endeavoured to consult your interests, and to place within your reach whatever is necessary for your welfare,

and for that of your offspring. And you are equally the care of Him who provides for the sparrows; to his ear your access is as easy as that of any condition amongst men; and if, by his holy assistance, and by a conformity to his will, you become truly poor in spirit, yours is the kingdom of heaven. But, dear friends, suffer us to remind you, that there is not a passion that can infest the rich, which may not also, in a degree be subversive of your peace, be fostered in your minds. You may covet, and give way to pride and anger, and to all the "foolish and hurtful lusts, which drown men in destruction and perdition." Therefore do you partake of the universal necessity of paying strict attention to Christ's sacred injunction, when addressing himself to his immediate followers, he closed his address with these memorable words, "What I say unto you, I say unto all, Watch."

As for you, dear friends, who occupy what are termed the middle stations of life, you have every cause to bless the Lord for the sphere in which he hath permitted you to move. In you seems fulfilled the wish of Agur: "Give me neither poverty nor riches (feed me with food convenient for me;) lest I be full and deny thee, and say, Who is the Lord? or lest I be poor and steal, and take the name of my God in vain." Among your number the Society has often found many of its more useful members, of its more able advocates. Be content therefore with your stations. Seek not great things for yourselves; yea, "Mind not high things; but condescend to men of low estate." But above all things, "Follow on to know the Lord;" or, if you have not known him and served him, fully and faithfully, seek him "with a perfect heart, and with a willing mind," for "if you seek him, he will be found of you;" and you will remain to be, as many of you have been, supports of the building, under the protecting providence of the Lord; who is the sole and true builder of his spiritual house, the "house of prayer for all people."

And you who are intrusted with much of the good things of this life, you who cannot disclaim the title of affluent—we believe there are among you many good stewards of the temporal things committed to your trust; yet we desire that others may duly consider, whether they are so "rich in faith," as to be "heirs of the kingdom," being fruitful in those good works which are produced by faith. Though, friends, you may not have to labour with your hands, the cause of Truth has business of importance for you to do; and it may be promoted or obstructed by the right or wrong application of your property. Much responsibility lies on you: your property is an additional article, in the account; and we much desire that you may be so awake to a sense of these things, as to be prepared to render up your accounts with joy, and to receive the answer of "Well done." The poor and the rich have their appropriate virtues; and, at the same time that each is required to be content and to be humble, we believe it may be truly said, that as contentment is a peculiar ornament of the poor, so is humility, of the rich. Your station in life subjects you more than others, to be tried by associating with other wealthy persons, among the people at large, with whom the cross of Christ is often in too little esteem. You may be leavened by their conversation and example; and it may operate still more sensibly and rapidly upon your children. Therefore we tenderly entreat you, for your own sake, for that of your offspring whom you are bound to protect, and for the sake of the cause of Truth—we entreat you, dear friends we beseech you "by the mercies of God,—Be not conformed to this world, but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect will of God. For," continues the Apostle, "I say, through the grace given unto me, to every man that is among you not to think more highly than he ought to think; but to think soberly, according as God hath dealt to every man the measure of faith."

But, how shall we address a state lamentably to be found in every condition of life; and from which few places are wholly free—that state which despises counsel, and places itself almost out of the reach of advice? Dear, but mistaken friends, it is difficult to speak to your state, but we may pray to the Father of mercies,

that he would in mercy plead with you. And we beseech you, take time to be serious. Be solicitous about your eternal well-being. The restraint of the Spirit of Truth is the armour that protects the soul; and if you will not be invested with it you are open to the repeated and increasing assaults of the destroyer; and how will you at length be prepared and found worthy "to stand before the Son of man?"

In this Meeting we have received epistles from our American brethren in most of the States, shewing the continuance of their zeal in the cause of righteousness, and encouraging us to perseverance; the particulars of any of which it does not seem needful now to detail. The amount of the sufferings of Friends this year, in Great Britain and Ireland, chiefly for tithes, those called church-rates and military demands, is upwards of Eleven thousand, seven hundred and seventy pounds;* and two friends have been imprisoned for not having found substitutes in the Militia. But we are by no means inclined to complain of the conduct of magistrates; on the contrary, we believe in many places there is a disposition in the hearts of magistrates, which induces them to protect us from suffering to the utmost limit of the law: and we desire that Friends may, on their part, by a meek and peaceable conduct, always insure, and never forfeit their good opinion. In so conducting ourselves, we adorn our profession, and suffer our light to shine.

Now, dear friends, of every rank, state, and condition, let us endeavour to be one in the Lord: that he may shower down of his mercies, gifts, and grace upon all. This will keep each in his proper place. The young will be mild, submissible, and teachable; and will become early acquainted with that power which is their only safe conductor through life, and their hope in death. These are near to our hearts. The very remembrance of them awakens our tenderest feelings, and prompts our prayer to the Lord for their preservation. The middle-aged will stand firm in their day, as watchmen upon the wall, and as valiants, having on the armour of light, to withstand the attacks of the enemy. And the aged will have to rejoice both in retrospective, and prospective view. The past will recall to their gladdened remembrance the numberless mercies of the Lord; and the future through the power of an endless life, and the redeeming virtue of Christ Jesus our Lord, will open to them the prospect, and satisfy them with the assurance of being *his for ever.* Amen.

* An opinion being sometimes entertained with regard to these sufferings, that individuals are reimbursed by the Society, it is desired, if occasion should occur, that friends would refuse it; as no such practice exists.

LOTTERIES.—The Committee of the House of Commons appointed to enquire how far the evils attending Lotteries have been remedied by the laws passed respecting the same, have, in their First Report, come to six Resolutions, the substance of which follows:—

1st. It is their opinion, that in case it shall be thought expedient to continue State Lotteries, they should be limited to two, yearly, of not more than 30,000 tickets each; that the days of drawing should be eight instead of ten, and that the number of tickets to be drawn should be kept secret till the close of the drawing each day; care being taken that too many shall not be left to be drawn on the latter days.

2dly. That no persons should be permitted to deal in Lottery Tickets, except those who take out a licence, and their agents.

3dly. That, to prevent persons setting up Lottery Offices, as a cloak for carrying on illegal insurance, no person should be entitled to a licence unless he shared 150 tickets, instead of 30, the present number.

4thly. That all Lottery Offices should not be permitted to do business before eight o'clock in the morning, or after eight o'clock in the evening.

5thly. That the practice of illuminating Lottery Offices for outside shew, exhibiting lottery bills and schemes upon boards, carts, or carriages, in town or country, should be subjected, on conviction, to a considerable penalty, or the party imprisoned for a limited period.

6thly. That the exemption of Lot-

tery-Office Keepers from the jurisdiction of Justices of the Peace and Police Magistrates, should be discontinued as inexpedient.

The Committee, in their Second Report, say, that the foundation of the Lottery is radically vicious, and that Parliament cannot adopt any system of regulations to make it an efficient source of revenue, and at the same time divest it of all the evils and calamities of which it has hitherto proved so baneful a source. All the punishments inflicted by the statutes upon offenders against the Lottery Acts fall only on the ignorant and the destitute, whilst the wealthy offenders hold them in utter contempt. The effects of the Lottery, under its present restrictions: idleness, dissipation, and poverty, have materially increased; sacred and confidential trusts are betrayed; domestic comforts are destroyed; madness is often created; crimes, subjecting the perpetrators of them to the punishment of death, and even suicide itself, are committed, as fully appear by evidence submitted to the Committee. Such fatal attendants upon State Lotteries this Committee are afraid will always continue, so long as State Lotteries are permitted to exist. The Committee conclude with their opinion, that the money paid to Government by Contractors is not equivalent to the distress occasioned to many persons, ultimately forced to apply for parochial relief.

From the evidence before the Committee, it appears that illegal insurance is affected by what are termed *Morocco Men*, in the lowest shops, for which they are allowed two shillings in the pound. These men, if imprisoned under the Vagrant Act, are allowed two guineas a week. A Police Officer stated a deplorable instance of a family who were accustomed to insure: the husband cut his throat, the wife went to the workhouse, and the daughter is in the utmost indigence from the like practices. Evidence was given of many servants stealing their employers property, for the purpose of insuring and buying shares. The Rev. Mr. Gurney, of St. Clement Danes, stated that a respectable Lady, who had a clear income of 400*l.* a year, was so reduced by the destructive propensity to insure in the Lottery, that she was compelled to seek refuge in the workhouse, where she died in the course of four months.

GALLANT ACTION.—*The following are the particulars of the capture of La Piedmontaise, French frigate, of 50 guns, by his Majesty's ship St. Fiorenzo, of 46:*—

"On the 4th of March, his Majesty's ship St. Fiorenzo, Captain Hardinge, sailed from Point de Galle, Ceylon. On the 6th, at seven A. M. she passed three Indiamen, the Metcalf, Devonshire, and Charlton, and soon after saw a frigate bearing N. E. The St. Fiorenzo immediately made all sail: at 40 minutes after eleven P. M. ranged alongside of him, and received his broadside. After engaging ten minutes within a cable's length, the enemy made sail a-head. The St. Fiorenzo made all sail after him, continuing to come up with him till day-light, when, finding he could not avoid an action, he wore, as did the St. Fiorenzo, and at six recommenced the engagement, gradually closing with him to a quarter of a mile. The fire was constant and well directed, though that of the enemy slackened towards the latter part of the action. At eight the enemy made all sail. The St. Fiorenzo's main topsail-yard being shot through, the main-roval-mast, both main-top-mast stays, the main-spring-stay, and most of both standing and running rigging and sails cut to pieces, and cartridges fired away, she ceased firing, and employed all hands in repairing the damages, and fitting again for action. They kept sight of the enemy during the night, and at nine A.M. on the 8th, being prepared for action, she bore down on him, under all sail: he did not endeavour to avoid the St. Fiorenzo until she hauled athwart his stern, to gain the weather-gage, and bring him to close fight, when the enemy hauled up also, and made all sail; but perceiving the St. Fiorenzo coming up fast with him, and that a battle was unavoidable, he tacked, and at three P. M. they passed each other on opposite tacks, and commenced action within a quarter of a cable's length; when the enemy was abaft the St. Fiorenzo's beam, he wore, and after an hour and twenty minutes close action, struck his colours.

"She proved to be La Piedmontaise French frigate, commanded by Monsieur Epron, Capitaine de Vaisseau; she mounted 50 guns, long 28-pounders on her main deck, and 36-pound carronades on her quarter-deck. She had 335 Frenchmen on board, and near 200 Lascars. In the action she had 48 men killed, and 112 wounded; the St. Fiorenzo had 18 killed, and 25 wounded; among the former her Commander, who unfortunately fell by a grape-shot the second broadside in the last action. Lieut. H. Massey was badly wounded just before the enemy struck. Moreau, Second Captain of La Piedmontaise, was severely wounded in the third action, and either threw himself, or caused himself to be thrown overboard. La Piedmontaise had her rigging cut to pieces, and her masts and bowsprit so wounded, that they went by the board during the night. Lieut. Dawson succeeded Capt. Hardinge, and brought the St. Fiorenzo and her prize into Columbo on the 12th of March."

Extract of a letter from an Officer, passenger in the Hon. East India Company's ship Charlton:—

"The Piedmontaise, the terror of the Indian Seas, so renowned for her success and swift sailing, has been captured at last. The St. Fiorenzo has had the glory of conquering her. After three bloody engagements, on three successive days, she struck her colours. The brave Capt. Hardinge fell in the last engagement. That desperate French officer, Moreau, was the second Captain in the Piedmontaise. This is the man who stabbed Capt. Larkins, after the capture of the Warren Hastings, and whom Sir E. Pellew denounced in his public orders to the fleet, as a proper object of vengeance, if ever he should be taken. Moreau conducted himself in a furious manner during the engagement. He would not suffer his ship to strike, and declared he should never be taken by the English alive. At last he discharged his pistols into his own body, and was thrown overboard, at his own request, before he was quite dead."

The brave Captain Hardinge, who fell at the close of the above gallant action, is a great loss to the service. It was he who boarded and carried with his boats, a large Dutch man-of-war brig on the coast of Holland, for which gallant enterprize Lord St. Vincent gave him the rank of Post Captain; and there is a circumstance attending this Officer's report of the action, which ought not to be kept from the public, as it shews how much modesty is ever attendant upon true courage.—Upon his landing at Sheerness, and reporting to the Port Admiral the arrival of the capture, he forbore to speak of himself, nor was it until the Admiral questioned him as to what officer conducted the attack, he acknowledged, with a manly blush, that it was himself, though the Dutch Captain (to whom he had offered quarters on boarding him, and who returned this generous offer with the discharge of a pistol) actually fell by Captain Hardinge's sword.

Another Gallant Action is recorded in the *London Gazette* of August 16th, announcing the capture of the Sylph, French brig, of 18 guns and 90 men, by the Comet sloop, Captain Daly.—The French brig was in company with another brig and a corvette, each equal in force to the Comet, but notwithstanding this superiority, Captain Daly gave chace, and coming up with the Sylph (who was most shamefully deserted by her companions) she struck, after a close action of twenty minutes, in which her Second Lieutenant and six men were killed, and five severely wounded. Not a man was hurt on board the Comet, though her sails and rigging were much cut. The Sylph is a very fine copper-bottomed vessel, and a fast sailer.

GAZETTE INTELLIGENCE.

The Gazette of Tuesday, Aug. 16, contains a dispatch to the Right Hon. Lord Viscount Castlereagh, one of his Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State, from Lieut. Gen. Sir Hew Dalrymple, K.B.

Gibraltar, July 24, 1808.

My Lord,—I inclose a Report from Capt. Whittingham, containing the details of a complete victory obtained on the 19th instant, by Gen. Castanos, over the French corps commanded by Generals Dupont and Wedel; and I take the liberty of congratulating your Lordship upon the glorious result of the day.

I have the honour also to state, that I have received a letter from General Castanos by the same Courier, expressing the satisfaction he has received from the services of Captain Whittingham. I have the honour to be, &c. H. W. DALRYMPLE.

The Viscount Castlereagh, &c. &c. &c.

Head-Quarters, Andujar, July 21, 1808.

SIR,—I had the honour to inform you, in my letter of the 17th July, that in a Council of War held on that day at Head-quarters, it was resolved, that the division of the Marquis de Coupigny should join that of Major Gen. Reding, and that the attack upon Baylen should be undertaken with the united force of the two divisions, whilst the third division and the reserve should occupy the attention of the enemy by a feigned attack upon Andujar. Major Gen. Reding entered Baylen on the morning of the 18th, at nine o'clock: he met with little opposition. The enemy retreated towards La Carolina. The Major Gen. wrote to the Commander-in-Chief for orders, either to advance against Andujar, or to pursue the column which was retiring upon La Carolina. Gen. Castanos ordered him to advance upon Andujar without delay.

On the 19th, at two o'clock in the morning the Gen. received information of the retreat of the French from Andujar. Lieut Gen. Pena, with the reserve, was ordered to advance immediately towards Baylen. The French began their retreat at nine o'clock *p.m.* 18th of July. A letter from Gen. Reding informed the Commander-in-Chief, that he intended commencing his march from Baylen towards Andujar at three o'clock *a. m.* 19th July. At 2 o'clock *p.m.* the advanced guard of Gen. Pena's division came up with the enemy. At this moment an express arrived from Major Gen. Reding, to inform the Lieut. Gen. that he had been engaged with the division of Gen. Dupont from three o'clock in the morning till eleven; that he had repulsed the French, and remained master of the field of battle. The guns of the advanced guard of Lieut. Gen. Pena's division had scarcely begun to fire when a flag of truce arrived to treat upon the terms of a Capitulation. The discussion did not last long.

Gen. Dupont was told he must surrender at discretion.

Lieut. Gen. Pena halted, and formed his division upon the heights of Umbla, distant three miles from Baylen; between four and five o'clock, Gen. Casterick, Aid-de-Camp to Bonaparte, was sent by Gen. Dupont with orders to treat with Gen. Castanos in person.

At nine o'clock *p. m.* Major Gen. Reding informed the Lieut. Gen., that during the truce, he had been treacherously attacked by Gen. Wedel, who was just come from La Carolina with a reinforcement of six thousand men; and that the battalion of Cordova had been surprised and taken prisoners, together with two field pieces.

The negotiations lasted till the evening of the 20th, and the glorious result I have the honour to inclose, as also as an exact account of the killed and wounded, on both sides, as I have been able to collect in the hurry of the moment.

The French themselves acknowledge the bravery and steadiness of the Spanish troops; their firmness, constancy, and perseverance, under the greatest possible privations, are worthy the admiration of the world, particularly when it is remembered that half the army is composed of new raised levies.

The Marquis Coupigny is detached with his division to take immediate possession of the Passes of Sierra Morena.

Gen. Castanos deserves the highest praise for his well-conceived plan, and for the cool determination with which he has carried it into execution, in spite of the popular clamour for an immediate attack on the position of Andujar.

Whilst the negotiations were carried on, Gen. Castanos received an intercepted dispatch from the Duke of Rovego to Dupont, ordering him to retreat immediately upon Madrid, as the army of Gallicia was rapidly advancing.

This determined the General to admit the capitulation of General Wedel.

French Force.—Division of Dupont, 8000—Division of Wedel, 6000—14,000 rank and file.

Spanish Force.—Reding 9000—Coupigny 5000—Jena, 6000—Jones 5000.—25,000.—Of this total one half peasantry.

Nearly 3000 of the French killed and wounded.

From 1000 to 1200 of the Spaniards killed and wounded.

TERMS OF CAPITULATION.

The Division of Gen. Dupont Prisoners of War. The Division of Gen. Wedel to deliver up their arms till their arrival at Cadiz, where they are to be embarked and sent to Rochefort.

There no longer exists a French force in Andalusia.

N.B. The Division of Gen. Dupont is also to return to France by Rochefort.

Downing Street, Aug. 16.

By letters received from Lieutenant Colonel Doyle, at Corunna, and from Major Roche at Oviedo, of the 8th and 9th instant, addressed to Viscount Castlereagh, one of his Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State, it appears, that various letters from respectable authorities at Madrid, and also public Gazettes had been received, both at Corunna and Oviedo, stating, that on the 29th ult., in the evening, the French began the evacuation of Madrid. Upon the 30th the evacuation continued; and, upon the 31st Joseph Bonaparte, with the remainder of his troops, quitted the capital for Segovia. This measure was attributed to the French having received the account of the surrender of Gen. Dupont's army in Andalusia.

The French carried with them all the artillery and ammunition they could find means to convey, and spiked the cannon, and damaged the powder they left behind! they also plundered the Palaces and the Treasury; they were followed by the Spanish Ministers who had acted under the French, and, in general, by all the French who were settled in business at Madrid. Upon the 1st of July it was believed that not a Frenchman remained in the capital.

Admiralty Office, August 16.

Copy of a Letter from Vice Admiral Lord Collingwood, Commander-in-Chief of his Majesty's Ships and Vessels in the Mediterranean to the Hon. W. W. Pole, dated on board the Ocean, off Cadiz, July 25, 1808.

SIR,—I have the pleasure to acquaint you for the information of the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, that the French troops under General Dupont, consisting of about 8000 men, surrendered themselves prisoners of war, on the 20th instant; having lost about 3000 killed in some partial actions, which took place on that and the three preceding days.

Gen. Wedel, with about 6000 men, who had arrived to reinforce Dupont, has capitulated, on condition of his corps being embarked and sent to Rochefort.

The Copy of a Letter from Capt. Whittingham to Lieut. Gen. Sir Hew Dalrymple, datailing the operations and final success of the Spanish forces, I beg leave to inclose. I am, &c.

COLLINGWOOD.

Copy of a Letter transmitted by Sir Charles Cotton, Bart. to the Hon. W. W. Pole.

Ocean, off Cadiz, July 24, 1808.

By the Scout I informed you that the French forces under Gen. Dupont have surrendered to the Spanish army; and having to-day received from the President of the Supreme Junta of Government at Seville the official account of it, I do myself the honour of transmitting a copy of it for your information.

COLLINGWOOD.

Admiral Sir Charles Cotton, Bart.

Palace of the Real Alcares of Seville, 22*d July,* 1808.

MOST EXCELLENT LORD,

It is with the greatest satisfaction that the Supreme Junta informs your Excellency of the happy success which our arms have had, over the French army under Generals Dupont, Wedel, and Gobert, they having laid down their arms, as is set forth in the inclosed papers, which accompany this for your information, being persuaded of the noble interest your Excellency takes in our most just cause.

The victory could not have been more complete, and there does not remain one Frenchman in Andalusia; there not being a single individual of three divisions (which by their own

statement, amount to more than 20,000 men), that has not been either killed or taken prisoners.

The rejoicing is so general and so lively, that an idea of it cannot be given; and we expect it will be the same in your Lordship's squadron, through the favour which the Spanish nation owes to British generosity.

God save your Excellency.

(Signed) FRANCISCO DE SAAVEDRA.
VICENTE HORE.
ANTONIO ZEMBRANO.
ANDRES MINAN.
JUAN BAPTISTA ESTELLER,
Secretary of State.

His Excellency Adm. Collingwood.

GAZETTE EXTRAORDINARY,
WEDNESDAY, AUG. 24.

Admiralty Office, August 23.

Dispatches, of which the following are copies, have been this day received at this office from Rear-Admiral Keats, addressed to the Hon. William Wellesley Pole:—

Superb, off Sprve, in the Great
SIR, *Belt, Aug.* 13.

I have the honour herewith to transmit a copy of my letters to Vice-Admiral Sir James Saumarez, relative to the escape and embarkation of great part of the Spanish army serving in this part of Europe. An event produced as well by the honour, patriotism, and talents of its distinguished chief, as by the assistance and protection which I was directed by their lordships' orders to afford it.

If the weather proves moderate, I hope to disembark the greater part on the Island of Langeland this day, where we have already a post of 2,500 men. I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed) R. G. KEATS.

To the Hon. W. W. Pole,
Secretary, &c.

Superb, off Sprve, in the Great
SIR, *Belt, Aug.* 11, 1808.

I have the honour and satisfaction to inform you, that by an immediate and zealous pursuit of the measures recommended in the duplicate of instruction received by the Mosquito on the 15th inst. his Excellency the Marquis de la Romana, and nearly six thousand of the Spanish troops under his command, were embarked this morning at Nyborg, which place he took possession of on the 9th.

By a combination of the same plan, more than one thousand have joined us this morning, by sea, from Jutland, and another thousand are thrown into Langeland, to strengthen the post held by the Spanish forces in that island, where it is proposed to land the remainder the moment circumstances of weather will permit of our moving. The arrival of the Spanish officer in the Edgar, on the 5th, of whose spirited escape to the squadron you were informed by Captain Graves, greatly facilitated our means of communication.

No doubt could be entertained of the honour and patriotism of the soldiers, who, indignant at the proposal of deserting their allegiance, though surrounded by hostile battalions, planted their colours in the centre of a circle they formed, and swore on their knees to be faithful to their country. All were equally anxious of returning to it. But one regiment in Jutland was too distant and too critically situated to effect its escape; and two in Zealand, after having fired on the French General Frision, who commanded them, and killed one of his aid-du-camps, have been disarmed.

Some untoward circumstances having occasioned suspicion, and made a premature execution of the plan necessary, the wind and current being adverse, I left the Superb on the 8th, and went in my barge to the Brunswick off Nyborg, and two hours after my flag was hoisted. On the 9th, the General took possession of the town.

Although the Danish garrison yielded to circumstances, an armed brig of 18 guns, the Fama, and a cutter, the Saloman, of 12, moored across the harbour near the town, rejected all remonstrance on the part of the Danes, and every offer of security made by the General and myself. The reduction of these vessels being absolutely necessary, and the Spanish General unwilling to act hostilely against Denmark, such small vessels and boats as could be collected were put under the command of Captain M'Namara, of the Edgar, who attacked and took them. On this occasion I have to lament the loss of Lieutenant Harvey, an officer of much merit, of the Su-

perb, and two seamen wounded: the enemy had seven killed and thirteen wounded.

I should have noticed that the Spaniards, irritated at the opposition their friends who came to their assistance met with, departed in some measure from the General's intention, and fired some shot at them before they struck.

Expedition being deemed of the greatest importance, I shifted my flag to the Hound in the harbour; and as neither of the three ships of the line, from circumstances of the weather, could be brought near in, 57 sloops or doggers, found in the port, were fitted by the seamen, into which great part of the artillery, baggage, and stores were embarked that night and the following day, and removed to the point of Slypsharn, four miles from Nyborg, where the army was embarked safely, and without opposition, this morning, notwithstanding the very unfavourable state of the weather, and they are now under the protection of his Majesty's ships at the anchorage off the Island of Sproe.

Some sacrifices of horses and stores were conceived necessary by the General; and as I considered it right, under the peculiar circumstances, to enter into the views and wishes of the Marquis de la Romana, every unavoidable act of hostility was rigidly abstained from, for I did not consider it prudent to bring away the brig and the cutter that rejected our offer of security, and forcibly opposed our entrance into the port; and I even undertook to liberate the vessels employed as transports, provided no interruption was made by any to the peaceable embarkation of our friends.

I should be unjust to the meritorious exertions of the officers and seamen employed on this short but fatiguing service, if I neglected to represent their merits on this occasion to you. Captain Graves's services were required afloat; Captain M'Namara, of the Edgar, undertook the equipment of the transports, with the embarkation of the stores; the embarkation of the troops was made under the direction of Captain Jackson of the Superb, and Captain Lockyer of the Hound; Captain Smith of the Devastation, and Captain James of the Kite, were indefatigable in their exertions in the various duties I assigned them. Many circumstances having combined to make an attack on the rear probable, great precaution was necessary.

Such guns as could be brought against us were spiked, and the embarkation was covered and most effectually protected by the Minx gun-brig and the two prizes, and by the very judicious disposition of the gun-boats under the command of Captain May of the Royal Artillery, who volunteered, and whose services on this and other occasions were highly useful.

It is not easy to express the joy and satisfaction felt by every class of the army at this event; and no circumstances, I believe, could have afforded more real pleasure to us all. One, the regiment of Zamora, made a march of eighteen Danish miles in 21 hours.

I transmit herewith, for your further information, copies of such letters as I deemed requisite to address to his Excellency the Marquis de la Romana and the Governor of Nyborg on this occasion. The replies to the former were verbal through a confidential officer, and the latter were made personally.

I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed) R. G. KEATS.

To Vice-Admiral Sir James Saumarez, &c. &c. &c.

Note.—Since this letter was concluded, we entertain some hopes that part of the regiment in Jutland, we thought lost, has escaped to the post of Lange and by the western channel.

Superb, off Langeland, Aug. 5.

SIRS,—I have the honour to inform you, that I have received from my government the most positive instructions to endeavour to communicate with the Spanish officers commanding the troops of that nation in the vicinity of my command, and to concert with them measures to secure their retreat from any place of embarkation which they may possess, and for placing them in a state of security until transports for their reception can be provided to convey them to Spain, for which, as well as the necessary provisions, measures have already been taken, and indeed of the arrival of them I am in hourly expectation. Until that period shall arrive, they

are welcome to share in the accommodation and provisions of the ships under my command: but as that might not afford ample means at present, although I am in expectation of the commander-in-chief, I would suggest, under the pressure of circumstances, the removal of the troops to some of the islands in the Belt for their perfect security. But as a measure of this magnitude, to the interests of the Spanish nation, would necessarily require a concerted plan, lest by attention to partial interest the general one might suffer, I request an unreserved and confidential communication, either to the ships off Nyborg, that stationed off Langeland, or any of his Britannic Majesty's ships in the Belt, and through the bearer of this, or by any other means. I propose sending on Sunday, unless I should earlier receive some person on board, a flag of truce, under some pretext, to the Spanish post at Spoysberg; and if this should be safely received, I wish in token of it, a small guard might parade in some conspicuous situation at noon to-morrow, near the English ship at anchor, or under sail, near Spoysberg.

In my present situation it is impossible, ardently as I enter into the views of my government and the Spanish nation, to attempt to lay down any fixed plan. My services, and that of every Englishman under my command, are devoted to the cause; but before measures can be adopted, we must communicate, agree on, and combine, as far as it may be possible, the interests of the Spanish troops in Jutland and Zealand with those in Funen and Langeland. I shall keep a ship for some days off Spoysberg; and every ship under my command will be on the look-out to receive any boats that may approach them.

I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed) R. G. KEATS.

To the Officers of his Most Catholic Majesty's Troops.

Superb, off Langeland, Aug. 7.

SIR,—Understanding from the Spanish Officer that the accompanying paper [thought unnecessary now to send] is the true state and situation of the Spanish troops in Denmark and its dependencies, the following, according to the various circumstances that present themselves to my view, appears to form a plan that promises the fairest prospect of success to ensure their security and ultimate embarkation.

Those in Zealand I would propose to force their way to the Peninsula, of which Halskon, near Corsoir, forms the projecting point towards Sproe. That isthmus appears capable of being defended, or at least seems to afford the means of defence for a few days, till I could remove them to the island of Sproe.

Those at Frederisca, by seizing on vessels, might possibly force an embarkation, and unite with those on Funen, which might perhaps be favoured by some movements of the troops at Odense.

Separate, or united with those in Jutland, I apprehend those in Funen could secure themselves in the Presqu' Isle (Peninsula) which terminates near the Island of Romsoe, of which the Pass near Kurteminde appears to form the George, and I could, if necessary, remove them to Romsoe; it would greatly facilitate the necessary naval operations, and might enable me to send a ship of the line towards Frederisca to favour the troops in Jutland, if those in Langeland should be thought in security on that Island; if they should, the other troops might be landed at leisure on that Island, and the whole embarked from thence; but if the troops at present there are incapable of maintaining themselves at that place, in that case, I must leave a ship of the line and a sloop, which could almost at any time receive them on board, and convey them to any other place that might be approved of, till transports could be procured for their reception. My means, (three ships of the line and half a dozen small vessels at most) are not perhaps sufficient to embrace all these objects at once; but the zeal and exertions of the Officers and ships' companies would greatly diminish the difficulties, and should be much aiding in lending assistance to the troops at Frederisca, if, as I have before said, those in Langeland should be considered capable of maintaining that post without any immediate support.

I am aware some sacrifices of horses, and perhaps cannon, might be necessary, and we must be prepared to encounter even unforeseen difficulties: naval arrangements and movements are ever dependent, in some degree, on weather; but I should hope to surmount them all. It would of course be right to drive in cattle, and take whatever provisions might be practicable with the troops, as it would not only save our present supply, which, the victuallers not having at this moment arrived, is rather scanty for the Spanish army, but would put me at ease on that score, provided any unavoidable delay should intervene, and prevent my sending supplies to them on shore.

In my present uninformed state, I am not in a situation to judge how far it might be in the power of, or deemed preferable by, the Spanish Commander to seize on Nyborg. It would secure the inactivity of the gun-boats in that port. But such a measure might possibly involve the safety of the troops in Zealand and Jutland, by inducing the Danes to act hostilely, when otherwise they might be disposed to wink at, or make no serious efforts to impede, the quiet removal of the Spanish troops.

But if the principles of this plan should be approved of and deemed feasible by those in command, I would recommend the movement to be general. That it be agreed to act upon it in all its parts the same day, except a discovery should take place, in which case each part should act immediately without hesitation.

I acknowledge I should have little expectation of the success of my negociation for the peaceable removal of the troops. But a Declaration immediately after the movement shall have commenced, of the peaceable and unoffending object in view, accompanied with a threat of retaliation in the event of any hostile opposition on the part of the Danes or French, might perhaps be found advantageous.

In stating the naval force at present under my command, it is right to observe, I am in expectation of more ships, and have been informed that a sufficient supply of provisions for all the Spanish troops is now on its passage to me.

I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed) R. G. KEATS.

To his Excellency the Marquis de la Romana, Commander in Chief of the Spanish troops in Denmark.

N. B. I have just heard that the expected supply of provisions is in part arrived, which obviates difficulties on my part.

Brunswick, August 9, 1808.

SIR—I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Excellency's letter of this morning, and to congratulate you and the Spanish Nation on the firm and manly step you have taken on this important occasion. Circumstances of weather unavoidably prevent the arrival of two ships of the line in sight. I send Captain Graves of the Brunswick, informed of my ideas, to see what uses can be made of the vessels in Nyborg. In my present situation I can receive nearly 1500 men on board; and, under all circumstances, it appears to me the most advisable to convey the troops with all expedition to Langeland; and as it appears to be the opinion of your Aide-de-Camp that you will be in a situation to maintain that Island, to take post there till the arrival of transports to embark the army, I shall order seamen to man twenty of the smacks at present in the Port, and more as the ships arrive. I apprehend the baggage and artillery had better be embarked in them, and moved out under my protection. Among the Spanish troops perhaps seamen may be found; and I would suggest the propriety of the immediate establishment of a marine corps on the most extensive scale possible; and I request your Excellency to keep in mind, the embarkation of water and provisions with the troops, in our present circumstances, is of great consequence.

I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed) R. G. KEATS.

To his Excellency the Marquis de la Romana, Commander in Chief of the Spanish troops in Denmark.

Brunswick, off Nyborg, Aug. 9.

SIR—His Excellency the Commander in Chief of the Spanish forces in Denmark having deemed it expedient under the present circumstances to take possession of Nyborg, my duty naturally calls me to a co-operation with the troops of that nation, and a consequent frequent communication with the town of Nyborg. To place your Excellency as much at ease as possible respecting the line of conduct that may be adopted in the present event by the English Admiral commanding in the Belt, notwithstanding the hostility of this day, I have the honour to inform you, that I have given the strictest orders to all under my command, to observe, towards the inhabitants of Nyborg the utmost civility; and it is my wish to abstain from every hostile and offensive act, so long as no hostile and offensive measures are pursued by the troops of Denmark or France against those of Spain; but if any opposition should be attempted either by the Danes or French to the peaceable and unoffending object in view, namely, the quiet embarkation of the Spanish troops, I shall certainly, though most reluctantly, take measures which it is to be apprehended might occasion the destruction of the town of Nyborg.

I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed) R. G. KEATS.

To his Excellency the Governor of the town of Nyborg.

Hound, Nyborg Harbour, August 10.

SIR,—It must be evident to your Excellency, that as my entrance into the harbour of Nyborg was hostilely opposed, I am bound by no absolute law or usage to abstain from hostilities, and to respect the property of the inhabitants. But although neither one or the other could be better secured than by the word of a British Officer, still it must be evident to your Excellency that, under existing circumstances, the Spanish General has occasion for several of the small craft in port, and that unless the masters and crews of them will lend their aid to equip and navigate their vessels, it may not be in my power to secure them from injury: but if they will, I pledge myself, after the service on which they are required (and which will be of short duration) shall have been ended, that I will not only use every means in my power to secure them from injury, but grant passports to them all to return in safety.

I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed) G. R. KEATS.

To his Excellency the Governor of the Town of Nyborg.

Superb, off Langeland, Aug. 13.

SIR,—I have detained the Euryalus a few hours, for the farther satisfaction of assuring their Lordships that the whole of the Spanish troops taken off by his Majesty's ships at Nyborg, will be landed in the course of this afternoon at Langeland.

A convention has been entered into between his Excellency the Marquis de la Romana and the Governor of the Island, which, on one hand, enjoins abstinence from hostility, and on the other, a sufficient supply of provisions, provided the island, which is fertile, can produce it.

I am, Sir, &c.

(Signed) R. G. KEATS.

The Hon. W. Pole, &c. &c.

DOMESTIC OCCURRENCES.

London.

The annual sale of the King's Merino Sheep (42 in number), took place on Tuesday, Aug. 2, at Kew. They sold in general at very high prices, particularly one four-toothed ram, which fetched 60 guineas; a polled ditto, 41 guineas; a full-mouthed ewe, 37 guineas; and most of the others from 15 to 30 guineas each.

Westminster Abbey is about to undergo a thorough repair, which, it is supposed, will take 14 years in completing; the expense is estimated at 60,000*l.*

The generous promoters and lovers of art will be pleased to know that the subscription for the venerable engraver Grignion, is spiritedly commenced by some of the most eminent patrons. The Earl of Carlisle has subscribed 20*l.* Mr. T. Hope, 10*l.* Mr.

Angerstein, Mr. Lock, and several other gentlemen and ladies liberally.

The Fourth Report from the Committee on the Distillation of Sugar and Molasses, has been printed. It recommends, that the planter should refine his sugar before he imports it, and enters into calculations to prove the advantages of refining in the West Indies. It also recommends, that sugar be employed in fattening cattle. Experiments to prove the utility of this latter plan, it says, are about to be instituted; and it recommends a reduction of the duty on sugar.

The harvest is now generally got in, and the crops of grain have been abundant and excellent in their kind. Providence has shed a blessing over the soil, and we hope the people will feel the effects of its beneficence, notwithstanding the efforts which will be made by the selfish and the interested to keep up the price of bread. The weather has been so favourable to pasture, and yet the price of meat does not diminish—butchers meat of all sorts is sold 2d. a pound cheaper in the populous city of Bath than it is in London.

Nuisance to a Court of Justice.—At a recent sitting of the Civil Court at Guildhall, the business was impeded by a most intolerable stench, so that it would have been impossible to have gone on with the business had it continued. Lord Ellenborough desired the Under-Sheriff and his Lordship's Chief Clerk to investigate from whence the nuisance proceeded, and it was ascertained that it was at Mr. Mason's (the butcher) back premises. Mr. M. was applied to, but he observed that he was an Englishman, and should carry on his business as he thought fit, and treated the subject with contempt. The two Gentlemen were immediately ordered by Lord Ellenborough to prefer a bill for a nuisance before the Grand Jury then sitting, which was done accordingly, and a true bill was found next day.

Decorum in Courts of Justice.—When the jury, in the case of Gregson v. M'Taggart, returned the verdict of damages, one shilling, a noise was heard in applause. Lord Ellenborough.—"I will immediately commit the person who has been guilty of that indecency, if he is brought before me. I hope he is in view. Is there any officer here who saw the man who was guilty of this violation of decorum? Mr. Under-Sheriff, I do insist on your having persons to take notice of those who misconduct themselves in Court; if not, I shall fine you severely." Mr. Deputy-Sheriff.—"My Lord, there are six persons in Court, for that purpose at this moment." Lord Ellenborough.—"Is there any one among them who saw the man who committed the outrage?" One of the officers.—"I did, my Lord." Lord Ellenborough.—"Bring him hither immediately, that I may fine him." Officer.—"My Lord, he is run away." Lord Ellenborough.—"Why did you not take him into custody?" Officer.—"I did endeavour to catch him, but he ran away before I could do so." Lord Ellenborough.—"Do you know his person?" Officer.—"No, I do not, my Lord." Lord Ellenborough.—"I desire a better attention to decorum, or I must set a high fine on the Sheriff—I will not endure this insult to the public administration of Justice. Let all the officers come forward—I shall impose a moderate fine on them, for I must not endure this indecorum." The officer, who had answered before, then came forward, and said, there were a number of persons together when the clapping took place, and it was impossible to take the person who offended, although he did endeavour. Ld. Ellenborough.—"Then to quicken you I will fine you 5l.—for you ought, at the hazard of your life, to have seized the offender; but, if you had brought him in, I should have fined him at least ten times that sum." The Officer was compelled to pay the fine immediately, or be imprisoned. His Lordship afterwards observed, he had much rather pay the fine out of his own pocket than be put to the necessity of imposing it; he must do it to support the dignity of the Court; but, if the officer should find the offender, between this and next Term, he should receive the fine.

The Third Report of the Committee on the Public Expenditure, &c of the United Kingdom, has just been printed. It is very voluminous, comprising no less than three hundred and eleven folio pages.

PROWESS OF THE BRITISH NAVY.—It must be proudly gratifying to the minds of Britons to know, that we have, at this moment, in the British navy, *sixty-eight sail-of-the-line*, prizes taken from the enemies of this country at different periods, besides twenty-one ships carrying from 40 to 50 guns each; sixty-two ships from 30 to 40 guns each; fifteen, carrying from 20 to 30 guns each; and sixty-six, from 10 to 20 guns each,—making a total of *two hundred and thirty-two ships*, a navy of itself equal to cope with the united navies of France and her vassal allies, without adding thereto near twenty sail-of-the line, besides smaller vessels, now in our service, built on the bottoms of prizes, in lieu of such as have been casually lost.

SHIPS OF THE LINE.

	Guns.		Guns.
1 Alexandre	80	37 Overysel	64
2 Argonaut	64	38 Le Pompee	80
3 Belleisle	80	39 Le Pagase	74
4 Brave	80	40 Princess of Orange	74
5 Bahama	74	41 Princess Caroline	74
6 Bienfaisant	64	42 Princess Sophia Frederica	74
7 Christian VII.	96	43 Puissant	74
8 Canopus	80	44 Prince Frederick	64
9 Camperdown	74	45 Prothee	64
10 Crown Prince Frederic	74	46 Salvador del Mundi	112
11 CrownPrincess Maria	74	47 San Josef	112
12 Le Caton	64	48 San Rafael	84
13 Denmark	74	49 San Nicholas	80
14 Donegal	74	50 Sans Pareil	80
15 Delft	64	51 San Antonio	74
16 Dordracht	64	52 San Damaso	74
17 Ei Firme	74	53 San Ildefonso	74
18 Even	74	54 San Juan Nepomuenzon	74
19 Gibraltar	80	55 San Isidro	74
20 Genereux	74	56 Scipion	74
21 Guelderland	64	57 Skiold	74
22 Heir Apparent Frederick	74	58 Le Spartiate	74
23 Le Hercule	74	59 Syeren	74
24 Haerleim	64	60 Le Tigre	80
25 Le Impetueux	80	61 Le Tonant	80
26 Implacable	74	62 Three Crowns	74
27 Juste	80	63 Texel	64
28 Justitia	74	64 Utrecht	64
29 Leyden	64	65 Vryheid	74
30 Malta	84	66 Waldemar	84
31 Le Maringo	80	67 Wassenaer	64
32 Maida	74	68 Zeeland	64
33 Mont Blanc	74		
34 Norge	74		
35 Nassau	64		
36 Oden	74		

All of which, except five, have been taken within the last fifteen years.

MARRIAGES AND DEATHS IN AND NEAR LONDON.

Married.] By special licence, at Harrington House, St. James's, by the Archbishop of Dublin, the Marquis of Tavistock, eldest son to the Duke of Bedford, to Lady Anna Maria Stanhope, daughter to the Earl of Harrington. The ceremony took place at four o'clock. His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales gave the fair bride away. The bride maids were Ladies Charlotte and Caroline Stanhope, the bride's lovely sisters. The company present were the Dukes of Bedford and Newcastle; Duchesses Bedford, Dowager Rutland, Dowager Newcastle; Lords Dungannon, Wm. and J. Russel, Barrymore; Ladies Dowager Sefton, Charlotte Clinton, Barrymore, Dungannon, Dowager Harewood; Generals Cotton and Crauford; Colonels Clinton and Stanhope; Messrs. Brand and Coleman, Mrs. Stanhope, and Miss Coleman. The bride looked most lovely, and was superbly dressed in point lace. After the ceremony the company partook of an elegant entertainment, which was prepared in the principal drawing room. Soon after six his Royal Highness took leave; the happy pair set off immediately in a beautiful chariot and four spirited blood horses, for Oakley, in Bedfordshire, where they intend to reside nearly two months.

At St. George's Church, Hanover-square, Sir Charles Mevrick Burrell, Bart. to the Hon. Miss Windham, eldest daughter of the Earl of Egremont.

By special licence, the Rev. William Huntington, minister of Providence-Chapel, Titchfield-street, to Lady Saunderson, of Cricklewood, widow of Sir James S. who served the office of chief magistrate of London in 1798.

Sir John Gore, R.N. to Miss Montague, eldest daughter of Admiral Montague.

Died.] Lady Diana Beauclerk, sister of the Duke of Marlborough, and of the Countess Dowager of Pembroke. Her Ladyship was first cousin to Aubrey 5th Duke of St. Alban's, father of the present Duke, and of Lord William, the present High Sheriff for Lincolnshire.

At his house, No. 60, Snow-hill, universally esteemed and lamented, Mr. John Brown, apothecary and

chemist, 25 years editor of the Law List, Brown's Master Key, and other Masonic works, and many years a trustee and director of the British Assurance Society.

The Right Hon. Dowager Kenyon, relict of the late Lord Chief Justice Kenyon.

In Lower Grosvenor-street, Lieut. General Churchill.

Aged 27, M. R. Onslow, Esq. eldest son of Adm. Sir R. Onslow, Bart.

Suddenly, H. Wilkes, Esq. son of Heaton Wilkes, Esq. and nephew to the late celebrated John Wilkes, Esq.

In Devonshire-place, the Lady of Sir C. W. Rouse Boughton, Bart.

In his 61st year, J. Crompton, Esq. of Percy-street, Bedford-square; 28 years of his Majesty's Customs.

At Islington, aged 71, Mr. J. Jones, formerly an eminent optician in Holborn.

EAST INDIES.

The following very extraordinary circumstance lately took place at Calicut:—Seven desperate Malays, who had been the terror of the adjacent country, having carried away the cattle, set fire to the cottages, and murdered several of the natives who opposed their depredations, were apprehended and lodged in the public gaol, where, during the period of their confinement, they behaved in the most refractory and resolute manner. On being brought to trial, several charges were brought home to them, and they all received sentence of death: but the evening previous to their execution, they rose on their guards, whom they murdered, and, possessing themselves of their muskets, bade defiance to the keeper of the prison and his assistants. The officer commanding in the district, with a small detachment of seapoys, attempted to scale the walls of the prison, the doors and windows being blockaded within; but he was repulsed with the loss of several men. The assailants, however, being reinforced from an adjacent station, and the desperadoes finding themselves overpowered, set fire to that part of the prison in which they were confined, and refusing all assistance, perished in the flames. Fortunately the rest of the prisoners were rescued, and a part of the building was saved from destruction.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

We have complied with the request of "Synephorus," and a monthly quota of his *Annotations* will be inserted while he has leisure or inclination to prepare them. We think, however, that their interest would be enhanced by *quoting* the parallel passages from different authors, rather than *referring* to them. Every idle reader of a Magazine may not have an Ariosto, a Tasso, or a Classic, at hand.

The extract from a "Funeral Sermon preached at Lydford," is disgraceful to its author, if true.

"The Single Life, defended by a Batchelor," is inadmissible.

We hope "Wm. Tucker" will find leisure for more efforts: yet we would advise him to make poetry only his pastime.

We sincerely commiserate "Bob Swan;" but who shall interfere between man and wife?

We must inform "W. B." *from the farm*, that Mr. Burdon's meaning is very intelligible, when he asserts that the style of architecture called *Gothic*, was not produced by a *Gothic nation*.

We have used as much of "Henrica's" favours as we deem admissible.

We have received only two letters remonstrating against the abolition of our portrait, which surely leaves us abundant room to believe that the measure is generally approved. To "Lector," who wishes for *two* editions of the Magazine, one without, and one with a plate, we must say that he seems to understand very little what he writes about; and as little when he imagines that we considered our subscribers as "poor paltry people:" and to "J. B. W——m," we must observe, that he read our Address in the last Number very negligently.

Erratum.—P. 18, last line, first col. for *enfir*, read *enfin*.

PROVINCIAL OCCURRENCES.

BERKSHIRE.

DIED.] At Southcot House, near Reading, in the 86th year of his age, the Comte d'Hector, the Father of the Navy of France under the Monarchy. This venerable and loyal character withstood the most pressing solicitations to return to France. He determined to follow the fortunes of his King. His skill and bravery in his profession could be equalled only by his Christian virtues and his unbounded benevolence. To the politeness of the old French Court, he added the openness and liberality of his profession. He leaves behind him no superior, and few equals, in public and private worth. His death is, doubtless, a subject of the deepest anguish to his beloved Sovereign, whom he had very lately visited at Gosfield.

CUMBERLAND.

It may be worthy of remark, that the nightingale has been heard frequently during the present summer, in the gardens belonging to the Earl of Lonsdale, in Fisher-street, Carlisle. We have heard it observed, that this bird was never farther north than Yorkshire, nor more to the west than Devonshire. Our woods are rendered melodious by the thrush, the linnet, and the blackbird; but, like the groves of Scotland, we believe they were never before visited by the sweet and tender strains of this nocturnal warbler.—*Tyne Mercury.*

New barley bread was eaten on the last day of July, at Broughton-in-Furness; and the following day, (being Broughton fair day) by great numbers of people, at the ordinary at Mr. Turner's, the King's Head. The barley was grown by him, on his farm at Wall-End, part of the estate belonging to Broughton Tower; and is the earliest crop ever remembered in that part of the country.

New wheat was brought to Ulverston market on Thursday, the 4th instant, on which day new wheat was cut at Cockerton, near Lancaster.

DERBYSHIRE.

Died.] At Croxall, the Rev. J.B. Pearson, a prebendary in the cathedral of Litchfield, vicar of Croxall, &c. He was suddenly attacked by illness, about 11 o'clock, which terminated fatally in one quarter of an hour. Few men have died more sincerely and deservedly lamented.

In the 87th year of his age, the Rev. Sir William Ullithorn Wray, Bart. of Darley, of which parish he had been forty-four years rector. He is succeeded in the title by his only surviving son, now Sir Chester Wray, Bart. (formerly a major in the Royal North Lincolnshire Militia), to whom the estate bequeathed by the late Sir Cecil Wray to his lady for her life will devolve, on her ladyship's death.

DEVONSHIRE.

The Rev. W. Davy, of Lustleigh, near Moreton, has lately published a system of divinity, and compilation from polite writers and eminent divines, &c. of 26 volumes, in octavo, containing 13,000 pages, of which only fourteen copies are printed. The work was compiled and written out by Mr. Davy alone: who, though ignorant of the art of printing, with a few worn-out types, printed off one page at a time, by himself, at a press made with his own hands. He began the work ten years ago.

Died.] At Modbury, aged 87, and in full possession of his faculties, Mr. William Rosdew, who for the last fifty years had lived a total recluse, denying himself not only the comforts, but almost the necessaries of life; by this extreme penury, he had amassed a considerable property, a great part of which he most liberally distributed among his relatives before his death. He was a man of strict integrity; and, notwithstanding his love of money, scrupulously just in all his dealings. This extraordinary turn of a naturally strong mind is supposed to have arisen from a disappointment in his affections in an early part of his life.

DURHAM.

The first meeting of the Tees Navigation Company has been held at Stockton, to put in execution the act of parliament for making a navigable cut through the neck of land near Portrach. The improvement which will be made to the navigation of the

river will be of the greatest advantage to Stockton, and its neighbourhood, by cutting off a circuitous and dangerous course; and, by means of this improvement, a facility will be given to the trading vessels which will benefit all the parties concerned.

GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

Died.] At his seat at Forhampton-Court, in his 78th year, The Hon. and Rev. James Yorke, LL. D. Lord Bishop of Ely, Governor of Addenbroke's Hospital, and Visitor of Jesus, St. John's, and St. Peter's Colleges, Cambridge. His Lordship was uncle to the present Earl of Hardwicke.—He was translated from the See of Gloucester to that of Ely in 1781.

At his seat at Tortworth, Francis Reynolds Moreton, Baron Ducie, Provost Marshal of Barbadoes. His Lordship was in his 69th year. He was first married to Miss Purvis, daughter of Thomas Purvis, Esq. of Shepton Mallet, Somersetshire, by whom he has left two sons, Thomas, who succeeds him, and Francis, a Colonel in the army. His Lordship married, secondly, Mrs. Child, mother of the late aimable Countess of Westmoreland, who survived her marriage but two years. The present Lord is married to Lady Frances Herbert, only daughter to the Earl of Carnarvon.

HAMPSHIRE.

The extensive buildings carrying on in the suburbs of Portsmouth, between the morass and the road that leads into Portsmouth from London, amount to 104 houses within the short period of one year. Within another twelvemonth it is expected that the range from Southsea Common will be joined to the half-way houses, by the Wiltshire Lamb.

At Magdalen-Hill Fair, near Winchester, lately held, there was a large quantity of cheese.—New, from 56s. to 68s.—Old, 84s. to 94s.

HEREFORDSHIRE.

The Hereford Journal says,—"At this assize, a cause came on to be tried, wherein the parish of Landenny were plaintiffs, and John Evans, of Langoren, an adjoining parish, defendant. Some years ago, Mr. Jones, of Tregirog, in the parish of Lanishen, Monmouthshire, left certain lands for charitable uses (amongst which were the premises, thirty acres of land, held by the defendant), for the use of the poor of Landenny; but through the decease of trustees or other causes, Mr. Evans, when called upon to advance his rent, which was only at 8*l.* to 12*l.* per annum, or deliver up possession of the estate, refused to comply with the proposal, considering it in fact as his own, on paying the annual rent he then did. Under these circumstances the parish brought the action; when, without much evidence, a verdict was given for the plaintiffs.——We would recommend it to other parishes to attend to the table of benefactions usually placed in their churches, which we are induced to believe would afford opportunities of easing the poor rates, if such gifts were applied to the purposes for which they were intended by their charitable donors."

KENT.

Maidstone, August 23d.

"The hop-plantations in this neighbourhood wear a most beautiful and prolific aspect, from the superior abundant crop that covers the poles; our general accounts from all parts of the county are a sure presage of its being one of the greatest hop years yet known, particularly in these parts."

Died.] At Rochester, August 1st, Mr. Thomas Penn, an eminent iron-founder.—He was universally respected.

At Lee, the Right Hon. Lady Dacre. The mind of her Ladyship was so strongly tinctured with an amiable, though romantic enthusiasm, that for several years past she has made it an invariable rule to pay a nocturnal pilgrimage to the tomb of her husband.

LEICESTERSHIRE.

Besides the premiums offered for cattle, by the Leicestershire and Rutland Society, the following are awarded:—To the person producing the best estimate of the comparative advantage between the use of oxen and horses in husbandry, 25 guineas.—For the best comparative experiment between the effects of rotten and fresh dung, arising from the same species of animal and forage, upon grass land, within one year, the extent not being less than one acre for each kind of dung, 10 guineas.—For the most satisfactory information, deduced from ac-

tual experiments, of the soils and situations best adapted for orchards, and the means used in their plantation and subsequent management, 10 guineas.—For the best experiment, and shortest report, on the practical effects of lime upon various sorts of land, 20 guineas.—For the best manner of forming compost dung-hills, mentioning their materials, quantity, and place, 5 guineas.—For the best conducted experiment, ascertaining the relative advantages to be derived from soiling or grazing cattle in the usual way, 10 guineas.—The same experiment for sheep, 10 guineas.—To the person clearing not less than five acres of land from ant-hills, within one year, in the best manner, the expense being stated to the committee, and it being understood that no premium will be allowed without proof of the efficacy of the measure for three years, 20 guineas.

LINCOLNSHIRE.

The inclosure of Wildmore Fen, below Boston, will lead to the cultivation of 40,000 acres of inundated, and hitherto unprofitable, land. It is so rich, that a considerable part of it has been sold at 50*l.* per acre, and the rest is supposed to be of equal value. The aggregate amount is stated at 2,000,000*l.* The expenditure of inclosing, &c. has cost 400,000*l.*; the net profit to the owners is, of course, stated at 1,600,000*l.* sterling.

NORFOLK.

At the late annual Ploughing Match at Ellingham, (given by the Rev. Wm. Johnson) the prizes were, a hat for the first; a pair of high shoes for the second; and a pair of buskins for the third best. —Nine pairs of oxen started: they ploughed about half an acre, and the judges declared the hat to be won by one of Mr. Johnson's men; the second prize, to a servant of Mr. Clarke, of Bergh Apton; and the third, to a servant of Mr. Johnson.

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.

Caution to Parish Officers.—A Writ of Inquiry has been executed at the Angel inn, Northampton, on the following case:—An action was brought against the Parish Officers of Naseby, by a person of the name of Ward, of the same place, for the recovery of 30*l.* he had paid to them, being part of 40*l.* agreed to be received as a compromise under these circumstances; viz.—A girl of the above parish having sworn an illegitimate child to Ward, the Parish Officers made an agreement with him to receive 40*l.* which was secured to them by four promissory notes of 10*l.* each, payable at different periods, three of which had become due, and were paid. To recover these sums, by proving the incapacity of Parish Officers to make such contracts, the action was instituted. The Sheriff having stated the agreement to be altogether illegal, and the payment of the money having been proved, the Jury gave a verdict for the sum paid.

NORTHUMBERLAND.

A silver medal and five guineas have been presented by the Board of Agriculture, to Mr. Crosier, of Alnwick, for his discovery of the means of preventing the "curl in potatoes," which effectually impedes their growth. We have to observe, that the choice of sets full of juice, which will snap off like a carrot in full perfection, being cut half through, has been considered as a proof that the potatoe is in a sound state, and proper only for planting. It can scarcely be expected that a root, the moisture of which is exhausted, can be productive of a healthy plant, and a plentiful crop; for such a set, on being cut in like manner, will tear off only by violence, and shew a porosity and lightness, more like a honeycomb than a substantial and a prolific root, fit for vegetation. In such a state, they are neither proper for food nor planting; being equally in each case unsound and unwholesome.

SOMERSETSHIRE.

At the anniversary of the Wool Mart, established by the Bath and West of England Agricultural Society, holden at their Exhibition Yard in Bath, a large quantity of Anglo-Merino wool was deposited for sale—a more abundant supply than last year. A quantity which much exceeded the expectation of the Society and of the growers was disposed of, and at prices, for the most part, adequate to the demands of the owner. The extreme fineness of some lots was a great temptation to manufacturers, who were the chief purchasers; and the mode recommended and put in practice by Mr. Joyce, of sorting and securing the improved

wool of the Spanish crosses (with the process of which many woolstaplers are not yet well acquainted) greatly tended to increase the business of the day. We hear that farther to promote an object they have been the first to cherish, the Bath Society intend to appear at their public meetings in cloth made only of improved British wool.

Sir Charles Bampfylde's manor of Wapley and Codrington was sold in lots at the Bush-Tavern, Bristol, for 76,000l. C. Codrington, Esq. was the principal purchaser; this gentleman purchased West-Kington manor last year at 33,000l. His magnificent buildings now finishing will cost him 150,000l.; and his property and royalties around it extend for upwards of 50 miles.

STAFFORDSHIRE.

Joint Stock Trading Companies, with Shares transferable. — How far trade may be carried on by companies of this description, will probably soon be determined—a bill of indictment having been found by the Grand Jury at the Assizes for this county against the Bilston and Sedgley Flour Company, which will bring the question to an issue.

Died.] At his iron-works at Bradley, aged 80, John Wilkinson, Esq. He was a man endowed with a capacious mind, happily combined with much enterprise and energy: he was a great promoter of public improvements, friendly to agriculture and canals, and had few, if any equals as an iron-master, in which, by his invention and spirit of enterprise, he was decidedly the first to bring that great branch of our national wealth and prosperity to its present state of perfection. Though he had lived to see, in his time, the iron trade rising into a great scale of importance, he still thought it in its infancy, and susceptible of much improvement. The loss of such a character might have been severely felt by the labouring classes of the community, if he had not left directions with his executors to carry on his numerous works on their present extensive scale. Though frugal in his manners and habits, he was not sparing in expensive experiments for the advancement of his favourite object, the iron trade, in which he acquired, as he justly merited, an ample fortune. His body has been interred, according to his directions, in an iron coffin, in his garden, at his seat at Castle Head, in Lancashire; where he had considerably increased his property by reclaiming an extensive tract of moss land, which has been spoken of by agriculturists as among the first efforts of the kind in this or any other country.

SUFFOLK.

Ipswich, August 26.

At the Lamb Fair, on Monday last, there was by far the greatest quantity of lambs that can be remembered for eight years past, so that it was at least three o'clock before the fair could properly be considered as set; notwithstanding which, the number of buyers were very considerable, and the sellers being disposed to comply with reduced prices, a very unprecedented quantity of lambs were sold at an abatement of about 2s. in the pound, from the prices of last year, during the afternoon.—Generally speaking, the lambs were not in so good condition as they were then; but such as were in good condition, were bought up with avidity. The polled lambs seemed still to bear the preference.

Another account says, "the abatement above mentioned was from 2s. to 3s. from last year's prices. On Tuesday morning, the business re-commenced with much briskness at the same prices, and continued till three o'clock, after which little was done, except among the dealers. No doubt can be now entertained respecting the favourite breed of sheep; for although the greatest half of the stock at the fair consisted of the South Down and the half-breds, until the sale was made of the best of this stock, there were very few of either the Leicester or Norfolk lambs disposed of, particularly the latter. There was a pen of Merinos, but so little notice was taken of them, that not half the buyers knew they were in the fair. Messrs. Weston, Revett, Blyth, Mason, and Dewing, sold a considerable number of South Down tups from five to ten guineas each. The Duke of Grafton's half-bred South Downs sold for 18s. The Earl of Bristol's ditto wethers and ewes, 24s. 6d. and South Down wethers at 22s. Mr. Shillito's (of Ickworth)

wethers and ewes at 24s. and several half-breds from 15s. to 21s. 6d.

Died.] Aged 55, the Rev. William Willan, of Melford, in this county; having been deeply affected with paralysis for the last 20 years.—His misfortune deprived him of the power of moving his feet from the floor; nevertheless he bore his affliction with exemplary fortitude and resignation.

SURRY.

A Society for the promotion of Agriculture is in contemplation to be formed in this county, pursuant to a resolution of the late assizes at Guildford; and a meeting is to be held early in September for determining the same.

QUEEN OF THE BEES.—The following facts shew that death itself does not destroy the attachment of bees to their female monarchs. On the 29th of July, two hives swarmed at the same time, in a garden belonging to Henry Hargrave, Esq. near Norwood, and fixed themselves on one bush. One of the gardeners in the family immediately placed a large hive above them, into which, in a short time, the greatest part crept. Great commotion was soon discovered amongst them, and a large detachment suffered themselves to drop on the ground, where they remained for a considerable time in a motionless state. Mr. H. desirous of exploring the cause, roused them up with a small stick; when all were on the wing, a bee was found quite dead, which appeared to be much less than the drone bee, and less than the working bee, whose wings were short and of variegated colours, which appeared to have been the object of attraction; for no sooner did he withdraw, than the dispersed fraternity alighted and clung to it as before. This experiment was repeated several times with the same result. Convinced that this was one of the queens, he took her and placed her in a small box, and to try the loyalty and attachment of her former subjects, frequently exposes her in the height of the day in different parts of the garden, where she is soon discovered by the prying insects, which never fail to alight around her in large clusters, seemingly bewailing the loss of their female monarch.

William Pilkington was tried on an indictment charging him with the wilful murder of Montague William Hyndes, at the Maze, Southwark, by discharging a pistol at him. The prisoner, who married the daughter of the deceased, and who was also the step-son of Hyndes, who married his mother, was alone with the deceased in the parlour of the Red Lion public-house, in the Maze, when a pistol was discharged, which killed the father. There were five witnesses called on the part of the prosecution, but none of them could prove how the act was committed; but it was admitted that Hyndes had died of the wounds he had received at the hands of the prisoner. The only material evidence was the assertion of the deceased, from the time of his having been shot until he died, in which he varied very materially. After he had received the wound, he in rage and agony accused the prisoner of having committed premeditated murder, by pointed expressions, such as "You have killed the best of fathers."—"You pulled the fatal trigger," &c. It however apeared, that in the moments when death was fast approaching, the deceased imputed the shocking catastrophe to accident, as was stated by a material witness, Mr. Clark, of Tooley-street. This witness proved, that Hyndes had died of his wound, and that on questioning him if the pistol had gone off in a struggle, he first said that the prisoner had pulled the trigger, and afterwards that it was an accident, as his son did not mean to kill him, he never had such an intention. It was proved on all hands, that the prisoner was much inebriated, and that his father and him lived on the most affectionate terms. It was evident that the deceased, who had been using persuasive arguments to get the prisoner home, attempted in a struggle to get the pistol he held in his hand from him, and also that from his pocket, and thus happened the fatal event. The prisoner made a very artless defence in a way so truly penitent and distressing, that tears of sympathy were flowing in every part of the Court. He protested his wretchedness, and the sincere love he bore his father, whom he had for a length of time maintained, and never once excited his anger. Had the pistol discharged

its contents in his own body, it would have been desirable to a being so wretched as himself. The prisoner was so truly overwhelmed with grief, that he was unable to proceed. After a humane charge from the Lord Chief Baron, the Jury returned a verdict of *Manslaughter*. The Judge passed sentence on the prisoner in a feeling manner. He observed that his situation was truly pitiable, and he hoped that the tears of sympathy shed in the Court for his situation would prevent men from carrying fire arms about them, and particularly men given to drunkenness and dissolute habits. Public justice required that the extent of punishment for Manslaughter should be inflicted in this instance, as the idea of carrying loaded pistols was monstrous, and the most dangerous thing to society. The prisoner was sentenced to be imprisoned twelve months.

Died.] At her house at Epsom, Mrs. Hodgson, relict of the late Robert Hodgson, Esq. formerly a Captain in the 1st Regt. Dragoon Guards. Capt. H. was at the battle of Minden with Lord George Sackville. Mrs. Hodgson was first married to Thos. Winteringham, Esq. descended from the same ancestor, in the reign of Elizabeth, with the late Sir Clifton W. She was of the respectable family of the Halls's of Colchester, and nearly related to the late Rev. John Halls. The bulk of her fortune she bequeathed to Mr. Brown, a near kinsman of her first husband.

SUSSEX.

Lewes, August 22d.

The whole of last week was highly favourable to the wheat harvest, which the number of stacks that are to be seen in the neighbourhood of the South Downs sufficiently evince. The produce is every where abundant, and in some situations exuberant. At Offham, last week, Mr. Knight carried from thirteen acres of land, fifty-two large loads of sheaves.

Died.] Suddenly, at his house on the West Cliffe, Brighton, after taking a ride to the Devil's Dyke, about four o'clock on Wednesday, August 24, Sir George Paunceforth, Bart. of Russell-square, London, aged 56 years. The body of the deceased was opened by Mr. Barret, in the presence of Dr. Hunter, when the cause of his dissolution became apparent in a cancer which had destroyed a part of his stomach. The late Lord Gage died of the same complaint. The Baronet's title and estates devolve to Captain Bloomfield, of the Royal Navy.

WORCESTERSHIRE.

A superb silver vase, upon a magnificent scale, and most elegantly finished, has been presented by his constituents to Wm. Gordon, Esq. one of the representatives in Parliament for the city of Worcester.

YORKSHIRE.

At the sale and exhibition of the cattle stock of the late Sir George Strickland, of Boynton, for pasture, all the great breeders attended.—One cow (Nonpareil) sold for 106 guineas. Two or three bull calves reached 50 and 60 guineas each; and the amount of the two days sale is computed at 2200 guineas. After the sale, a bull belonging to Mr. G. Coates, of Driffield, whose reputation as a breeder of stock is well known, was sold for the enormous sum of 500 guineas!

On Sunday, the 31st of July, as the Rev. C. Cooke (tutor to the two sons of the Hon. H. Vernon, of Wentworth house, Yorkshire) was riding an high-spirited hunter in the park, some of the deer crossed him, and caused the horse to run away with him. In vain his rider endeavoured to stop him; the beast ran at his fullest speed at the park (an iron) gate, which is 7 ft. 9 in. high, and with very large spikes on the top; above the gate is a fine arch of Portland stone, and about 8 feet above the top of the spikes. The horse nevertheless endeavoured to cover the gate; but in the exertion broke the two cross bars of heavy massy iron, and by the shock wrenched the lower hinge from the post; by this means the gate hung obliquely; when, frantic with the pain, to the surprise of every beholder, he directly staunch leaped the gate, and carried his rider over perfectly safe, who had some difficulty to stop him afterwards from running away. So great was the concussion that the bone, from the forehead to the nose, was fractured completely into two parts. The horse struck his rider a most violent blow in his right eye, immediately before covering his leap, which has nearly

deprived him of the sight of it.—The horse is expected to recover.

At York sessions, an appeal came on to be heard, wherein the trustees of the Methodist Chapel in that city were appellants, and the inhabitants of the parish of St. Martin, Coney-street, in the same city, respondents, in order to try whether the appellants were liable to be assessed for and pay the poor rates for the said chapel; and, on the hearing thereof, it was determined by the court, that they were liable to pay the rate, as they made profit of the pews and seats in the chapel, by letting them.

Vegetable Antiquity. — There are now growing within 300 yards of the old Gothic ruins of Fountains' Abbey, three miles from Rippon, seven very large yew trees, generally called the Seven Sisters, whose exact ages cannot be accurately learned, though it has been handed down from father to son that these seven yews were standing in the year 1088. And it is said, that when the Great Fountains' Abbey was building, which is 700 feet long, and was finished in 1283, the masons used to work their stones, during the heat of summer, under the shade of these trees. The circumference of the Seven Sisters, when measured by a curious traveller, were of the following sizes:—The smallest tree, round its body, 5 yards 12 inches; four others are from 5 yards and a half to 7 yards and a half; the sixth is 9 yards and a half; and the seventh is 11 yards 19 inches in circumference, being 2 yards 10 inches larger than the great yew-tree now growing in the church-yard at Grasford, in North Wales, which is 9 yards 9 inches.—These trees are the largest and oldest growing in the British dominions.

Died.] At the Trinity House, at Hull, aged 76, Mrs. Gunhouse, widow of the late Capt. Richard Gunhouse, of the Olive Branch, of Liverpool. A few days previous, when eating a crab, a piece of the shell ran into her thumb; her arm soon after began to swell, and a mortification ensued, which occasioned her death.

Lately, at Tattershall, aged 30, Mr. Samuel Butters, grandson to the late Rev. G. Boyce, who was 62 years the Baptist Minister at Coningsby. The corpse was taken for interment to the burial-ground belonging to the General Baptists in Coningsby, but being refused the boon of "a little earth" by the minister and congregation of the *Old* Chapel there, was conveyed back to Tattershall, the clergyman of which parish kindly consigned the bones to the narrow house of those at rest.

WALES.

Dr. Burgess, the Bishop of St. David's, has declined a translation from that see, on the ground that such removals are inconsistent with a due discharge of the episcopal duties. He has established a kind of Provincial College for the education of youth, to qualify them better for ministering in the Welsh Church. His Lordship has also apportioned the tenth part of his revenues during life, and all his beneficed clergy have added their contributions, in support of this useful and meritorious institution.

SCOTLAND.

Renovation of Sight. — Lately died in the village of Aberfeldie, Perthshire, Margaret Robertson, at the advanced age of 96 years. The history of this woman, in regard to the recovery of her sight, is somewhat remarkable, and not unworthy of record. About the period that this woman, who was a farmer's wife, attained to the age of 63, she became totally blind, not suddenly or by any particular cause, but by a gradual decay of sight. In this state she remained for 15 years. In her 78th year, she recovered her sight so well, that, with the assistance of glasses, she was able to thread a needle, and to read her bible; in the course of the next year, she found it so strong and clear, that she laid aside her glasses altogether; from her 79th to her 87th year, she enjoyed her sight with as much clearness as she did at any period of her life; it then began to fail again, but was not totally lost at the time of her death. It is observable, that she always retained all other faculties with undiminished vigour to the last.

Astonishing Produce.—A part of Tweedmouth common, containing about 28 acres, the property of James Foster, Esq. post-master of Berwick, was bought a few years ago for 400l. four acres of which have this season produced the amazing quantity of 1500

stones of hay. It stood so thick in the field, that the mowers would not cut it at the common price.

Died.] At Edinburgh, in his 56th year, H. W. Tytler, M. D. author of the Translation of Callimachus, and other literary works.

IRELAND.

At the late Armagh Assizes, the trial which excited the greatest interest was that of Major A. Campbell, for the wilful murder of Captain A. Boyd, at Newry, by shooting him with a pistol. In the course of the trial a contrariety of evidence appearing respecting the words of the deceased, whether those words were spoken at a time when the deceased conceived he was mortally wounded and dying, or not—the Judge, in this case, thought fit to direct a separate issue to be sent up to the Grand Jury, to try the fact, who, after a short deliberation, returned a verdict, finding "that the words alluded to were spoken by the deceased in contemplation of death, or at a time when he considered himself dying." After a long and patient hearing, he was found guilty, and sentenced to be hanged on Monday the 8th inst.; but, on account of the excellent character given of him by many officers of the first respectability, he was recommended to mercy, and the execution postponed till the 18th instant.

The Grand Jury who found the Bill, and the Petty Jury before whom he was tried, have each petitioned the Lord-Lieutenant of Ireland to extend mercy to the unfortunate, though not wholly excusable man.

The lady of the unfortunate Major Campbell has displayed an energy and activity in the cause of her husband highly honourable to the sex.—She no sooner was informed of the verdict of the Jury at the Armagh Assizes, than she set out unattended in a post-chaise for Dublin. On her arrival, the packet had just sailed. Fearless, however, of danger, she hired an open boat, and a couple of undaunted Irish watermen gallantly rowed her across the Irish Channel, and safely landed her at Holyhead, after a tedious and dangerous voyage, from whence she proceeded with all possible dispatch, and without taking any rest, arrived in London. She went immediately to Windsor, where she presented a memorial to her Majesty imploring her intercession with the King in behalf of the unfortunate Major, now under the awful sentence of death; at the same time stated the nature of the duel, and a detail of her husband's meritorious services in the army for near 20 years.

Mrs. Campbell has been incessant in her applications to obtain the royal mercy, in behalf of her unfortunate husband. She has, on her knees, solicited in the most pathetic terms the intercession not only of her Majesty, but of all the Princesses. She also went to Brighton, to wait on his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, who immediately wrote a note to the Duke of Portland, which Mrs. Campbell presented to his Grace; but no hopes were given that her application would be attended with success; and her unfortunate husband (who is first cousin to the Earl of Breadalbane) has suffered the awful sentence of the law. This event took place on the 24th of August.

A most extraordinary and mysterious circumstance took place near Dublin within these few days. A gentleman who resides about four miles from town, in the neighbourhood of Merrion, received an anonymous communication on Tuesday last, that his life was to be attempted that night by poison, administered by the hands of a female domestic, and that the house was to be attacked from without, by a band of ruffians, for the purpose of plunder. Alarmed at the disclosure of this dreadful secret, the gentleman had the girl secured, and, in the search, discovered on her person a bottle of arsenic! On her being detected she confessed the entire, but insisted that the poison was intended for a dog in the yard, to prevent his giving an alarm at the time the ruffians were to make their attempt. She was taken into custody, and is making such farther confessions, as will lead to the developement of this dreadful business, and the punishment of its abominable agents.

Married] At Dublin, Lord Lismore, to Lady Eleanor Butler, sister to the Earl of Ormond.

The Rev. J. Leslie, Dean of Cork,

to Miss Lawrence, second daughter of the Bishop of Cork and Ross.

Died.] In Dublin, after a long and painful illness, the Right Hon. John Thomas Earl of Clanricarde, General in the Army, Colonel of the 66th regiment, Governor of Hull, and Custos Rotulorum of the county of Galway. The first Marquis of Clanricarde, in the reigns of Charles I. and II. was perhaps as able and distinguished a loyalist and patriot as that era produced. His Lordship had nearly attained his 64th year. He married Eliza, daughter of Sir Thomas Burke, Bart. of Marble-Hill, county of Galway, Ireland. His Lordship is succeeded in his titles and estates by his son Ulick John Lord Dunkellyn, now in his seventh year. He has also left two daughters: and in the year 1800, his Majesty was most graciously pleased to grant that, in default of male issue, the Earl's eldest daughter should inherit the title, and be a Countess in her own right.

At Roseyards, near Ballymoney, the Rev. J. Tenant, aged 82. He was more than 57 years pastor of the seceding congregation there; during which time he never disappointed them of a sermon, nor was prevented from preaching, through sickness, a single sabbath.

DEATHS ABROAD.

At Alexandria, America, Mrs. Warren, wife of Mr. Warren, one of the managers of the Philadelphia and Baltimore theatres, formerly Miss Brunton, sister to the Countess of Craven.—The following tribute of respect to the memory of this Lady is copied from an American Paper:—

"Could the writer so command his feelings upon the present melancholy occasion, as to enable him to enter into a detail of the excellencies of Mrs. Warren's theatrical characters, it would be superfluous, her celebrity having long since diffused itself over both her native and this her adopted country.

"In her the American stage has been deprived of its brightest ornament, not more conspicuous from her unrivalled excellence in her profession, than from her having uniformly preserved a spotless and unsullied fame; proving by her fair example, that an unblemished reputation is by no means incompatible with a theatrical life.

"In the circle of her intimate friends her loss will be most poignantly felt; for to them the many virtues and accomplishments which adorned her private life were best known. To a warm, feeling, and affectionate heart, were added that fascinating ease and grace in conversation, which, regulated by an excellent understanding, delighted, at the same time that it improved.

"But, alas! that eye is now dim and closed for ever, which has so often communicated its magic influence to the heart; and mute is that tongue whose flexible and silver tone so sympathetically vibrated upon the ear of an enraptured audience.—Never could the observation of a celebrated moralist upon a similar occasion be more applicable than upon the present: "Death has eclipsed the gaiety of nations, and diminished the public stock of harmless pleasure."

At Vienna, the Hon. John Theophilus Rawdon, brother to the Earl of Moira.

At Rio de Janeiro, whither he had accompanied the Royal Family and Government of Portugal, his Excellency General John Forbes, of Skellator, in the county of Aberdeen, in the 76th year of his age. He was the senior General Officer in the Portuguese army, General and Governor of Rio de Janeiro, a Councillor of War, General of Cavalry, and Knight Grand Croix of the illustrious Orders of Avis in Portugal, and Carlos III. in Spain. He died on the 8th of April.

This much respected veteran was a Lieutenant at the siege of Maestricht in 1748; he served all those campaigns, as well as the seven years war, at the conclusion of which he entered into the service of Portugal, where he contributed much to the establishing the tactics of Frederic the Great (then introduced into most of the armies of Europe) into the Portuguese army, under the immediate protection and friendship of Marshal Count LaLippe. During a period of near fifty years he distinguished himself in that country by his activity, his zeal, and his incorruptible integrity; to which last circumstance it was perhaps owing that he enjoyed, uninterruptedly, the

favour of four succeeding Sovereigns. The tears and unfeigned sorrow of the reigning Prince were the most affecting testimonial of his attachment to the General, as the public and sincere regrets of the people were of his real worth. He was indeed a virtuous and an honourable man: and as a soldier, possessed undaunted courage, indefatigable activity, promptitude, and decision.—He commanded with reputation the Portuguese army in Roussillon, at the commencement of the revolutionary war.

At Petersburgh, Mr. J. D. Burke, a native of Ireland. While dining at a tavern, the present politics of France becoming the subject of discourse, he said the French were all a pack of rascals. A Frenchman, named Coquebert, who happened to be dining there at the time, took the matter as an insult offered to him; a challenge and a duel was the consequence. On the second fire, M. Coquebert's ball passed through the heart of his antagonist, who expired without a groan. Mr. Burke was buried with military honours; and, in consequence of a request in his will, without any religious ceremony.

At Seringapatam, General Sir William Clarke, Bart. commander of that district, and an officer of great talent and experience, in the 45th year of his age.

At Antigua, Dr. Ralph Cuming, surgeon of the Naval Hospital at that island, late of Romsey, in Hampshire. Also, his wife and child, who died on the following day.

ALPHABETICAL LIST OF BANKRUPTCIES.

July 23, to August 20, 1808, inclusive.

[Extracted from the London Gazette.]—The Solicitors' Names are between Parentheses.

BLAZE J. Blades, Manchester, dealer, (Harrison, Craven-street). Barley W. Derby, mercer, (Kinderley and Co. Gray's-Inn). Banks R. Eltham, victualler, (Debarry and Co. Taufield-court, Temple). Brindle R. Leyland, bleacher, (Holborn-court). Beckwith T. Commercial-road, coach-maker, (Smith and Co. Leman-street). Biggs T. Seend, Wilts, cheese-dealer, (Sandys and Co. Crane-court). Bed R. and Hedley R. Newcastle-upon-Tyne, woollen-drapers, (Atkinson, Chancery-lane). Brown S. and Tildesley W. Bloxwich, Stafford, rope-makers, (Webb and Co. Birmingham). Bissix W. Sloper R. and Bissix C. Bristol, vinegar-makers, (Meredith, Lincoln's-Inn).

Cheek W. H. Manchester, scrivener, (Bousfield, Bouverie street). Chowles J. T. Finch-lane, painter, (Dawne, Henrietta-street). Chambers H. Warwick, innkeeper, (Smart and Co. Staple-inn). Craike J. and Schwedersky J. F. Newcastle-upon-Tyne, merchants, (Bell and Co. Bow-lane). Crumbleholme J. Preston, grocer, (Blackstock, St. Mildred's-court).

Eyre W. St. Columb Major, Cornwall, merchant, (Sandys and Co. Crane-court). Emmet S. Birkenshaw, Birstall, York, carpet-manufacturer, (Wigglesworth, Gray's-inn). Elliot T. Bedford-street, Covent-garden, tailor, (Pike, Air-street).

Foxall J. Marlborough-court, victualler, (Sherwood, Cushion-court).

Gear I. Old Gravel-lane, victualler, (Clement, Ratcliffe-highway). Gardner T. Shoreditch, haberdasher, (Battye, Chancery-lane). Gray W. St. John-street, shoe-maker, (Selby, Charles-street).

Halford E. Bristol, baker, (Whitcombe and Co. Serjeant's-Inn). Hale J. Chester, butcher, (Milne and Co. Temple). Henderson R. W. George-street, broker, (Collins and Co. Spital-square). Harrison G. and Watson J. Noble-street, hosiers, (Wigglesworth, Gray's-Inn). Harrison B. Calbeck, Cumberland, dyer, (Hurd, King's-Bench-Walks). Hill W. Middle-row, carpenter, (Langley, Plumtree street).

James W. Swansea, shopkeeper, (Heelis, Staple-Inn). Jones W. A. Aldermanbury, haberdasher, (Berridge, Hatton garden). Jeffery A. Thornford, Dorset, jobber, (Warry, New-Inn). Johnson E. Bleeding-Heart-Yard, cabinet-maker, (Willoughby, Clifford's-Inn).

Kay J. Manchester, leather seller, (Cooper and Co. Southampton-Buildings). Knott J. Oldham, grocer, (J. and R. Willis, Warnford-court). Kidd D. Berwick-upon-Tweed, linen-draper, (Ellis, Cursitor-street). Kennedy T. Woolwich, tavern-keeper, (A. and J. Weston, Fenchurch-street).

Lindill W. Leeds, spirit-merchant, (Haynes, Fenchurch-street). Lawton J. sen. Lawton J. Lawton J. jun. and Lawton J. Ashton-under-Line, Lancaster, cotton-manufacturers, (J. and R. Willis, Warnford-court). Lovell T. Shoreditch,

baker, (Collins and Co. Spital-square). Lilley W. St. John-street, linen-draper, (Bourdillon and Co. Little Friday-street). Lellman L. J. New-street, Bishopsgate-street, merchant, (Jones, Basinghall-street).

Mendez D. Harrow-street, Gravel-lane, army accoutrement-maker, (Isaacs, George-street). Morgan A. and Morgan E. Builth, Brecknock, tanners, (Highmoor, Bush-lane). Metcalfe J. Skipton, threadmaker, (Swale, Great Ormond-street). Mears C. Stockport, cheesemonger, (Huxley, Temple). Moore D. Lenham, Kent, late purser of the Sir Stephen Lushington East-Indiaman, (Palmer and Co. Copthall-court).

Oldham J. Melton, draper, (Berry and Co. Bucklersbury). Ollivant W. Manchester, cotton-manufacturer, (Ellis, Cursitor-street). Ollivant T. Manchester, silversmith, (Ellis Cursitor-street).

Pepper J. Romford, victualler, (Cutting, Bartlett's-buildings). Parr J. O. and Patrick T. C. Suffolk-lane, insurance-brokers, (Dennetts and Co. King's Arms-yard). Pearce J. Paternoster-row, money-scrivener, (Wharton and Co. Lamb's-buildings). Pater T. Shadwell High-street, surgeon, (Wilson, Devonshire-street). Powell J. and Ormond W. D. Bristol, wine-merchants, (Tarrant, Chancery-lane). Powley W. Penrith, ironmonger, (Ireland, Staple-Inn).

Russell W. M. Vauxhall, maltster, (Alcock and Co. York-street). Robinson N. E. Bond-court, merchant, (Alcock and Co. York-street).

Smith J. S. Liverpool, shoe-maker, (Spottiswoode, Austin-friars). Straw G. Lincoln, merchant, (Macdougall and Co. Lincoln's-Inn). Smallridge T. Stoke-in-tinhead, Devon, butcher, (Fowell, Finch-lane). Seagoe J. Duke-street, St. James's, tailor, (A'Beckett, Bread-street). Stokes T. Tooley-street, cabinet-maker, (Speck, St. John's, Southwark). Smith J. Little Pulteney-street, tallow-chandler, (Hughes, Bear-yard). Sharpe J. Market-Deeping, Lincoln, linen-draper, (Wilde, jun. Castle-street).

Treloar T. jun. Penryn, Cornwall, brewer, (Shephard and Co. Bedford-row). Thackray R. Burton-Leonard, York, flax-dresser, (Godmond, New Bridge-street). Turner T. Liverpool, cheesemonger, (Windle, John-street). Thompson J. Manchester, cotton-manufacturer, (Kay and Co. Manchester). Tempest M. Derby, mercer, (Lowten, Temple). Tennant J. Manchester, butcher, (Edge, King-street, Manchester). Tupper G. Linton, Kent, shopkeeper, (Aubrey, Took's-court) Troughton T. Liverpool, stationer, (Bigg, Hatton-garden).

Wilkes W. Birmingham, factor, (Chilton, Exchequer-Office). Wyatt H. Jones R. S. Shephard C. and Top N. P. Duke-street, painters, (Bousfield, Bouverie-str.). Wray J. Wakefield, corn-dealer, (Battye, Chancery-lane). Wing J. Stamford, Lincoln, victualler, (Smart and Co. Staple-Inn). Wicks M. Minchinhampton, Gloucester, miller, (Price and Co. Lincoln's-Inn). Whitehead W. Saddleworth, York, woollen-manufacturer, (Battye, Chancery-lane.

Young J. Manchester, cotton-manufacturer, (Edge, King's-Bench-Walks).

PRICES OF CANAL, DOCK, FIRE-OFFICE, and WATER WORKS, SHARES, &c. &c.

August 22, 1808.

London Dock Stock, 116*l.* per Cent.
East-India ditto, 121*l.* ditto.
West-India ditto, 157*l.* ditto.
Commercial Dock Shares, 127*l.* ditto.
Grand Junction Canal, 130*l.* per share.
Grand Surrey ditto, 60*l.* ditto.
Imperial Fire Insurance, 8*l.* per cent. prem.
Globe Fire and Life ditto, 115*l.* per cent.
Albion ditto ditto, 2*l.* per cent. prem.
Hope ditto ditto, 25*s.* per Share prem.
Rock Life Assurance, 5*s.* ditto.
East London Water-works, 50*l.* prem.
West Middlesex ditto, 50*l.* ditto
South London ditto, 45*l.* ditto.
Golden-Lane Brewery, 80*l.* per share
London Institution, 84*gs.* per share

L. WOLFE and Co. *Canal, Dock, & Stock Brokers.*

AGRICULTURAL REPORT.

THE late storms and hurricanes, particularly in the west, have laid several fields of wheat and some barleys In some counties, particularly the midland, the wheat and barley has not suffered so considerably as in the distant counties. In the southern districts, there are complaints of the smut. Since the harvest has become general, barley affords a better appearance, and is so generally good as to be esteemed a fair crop. Oats are also good in most places. Beans are generally well podded, but like

some other crops, are in some places deficient; those, however, sown late in the season have profited much by the late rains.

Most of the Kentish hops present so luxuriant an appearance, that in the opinion of many planters, the produce will be so very large as not to be worth the expense of picking; some casualties however may yet affect them.

The barley and oat harvest has begun in Scotland as well as in England, and in the north the crops are said to be most abundant. The turneps have been considerably revived by the late rains.

Sir John Sinclair, in closing his address to the Board of Agriculture, says, that it is discovered, that cutting off the blossom on the tops of the potatoe much increases the crop at the bottom. It is now the time for performing this operation

Lean stock hold their prices, while the fat have rather declined on account of shortness of keep, and the late heat of the weather.

Beef, in Smithfield market, 4s. 6d. to 5s. 4d.; mutton, 4s. to 4s. 8d.; veal, 4s. 8d. to 6s.; pork, 4s. 8d. to 6s.; lamb, 4s. 6d. to 4s. 8d.

Middlesex, August 25.

AVERAGE PRICES OF CORN,

By the Winchester Quarter of 8 Bushels, and of OATMEAL per Boll of 140lbs. Averdupois, from the Returns received in the Week ended Aug. 20, 1808.

INLAND COUNTIES.

	Wheat		Rye		Barley		Oats	
	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.
Middsx.	84	10	49	10	46	2	43	11
Surrey	84	6	50	6	47	6	45	9
Hertford	75	10	43	0	45	9	38	8
Bedford	75	11					45	6
Huntin	77	8			46	6	41	8
Northa.	76	1	46	0	43	0	40	0
Rutland	84	0			48	0		
Leicest	80	8			41	0	40	0
Notting.	85	10	61	6	47	0	39	0
Derby	89	0					41	0
Stafford	82	4			50	4	36	10
Salop	86	3	60	6	52	8	37	10
Herefor	78	4	44	8	34	11	34	11
Wor'st.	84	2			39	11	42	4
Warwic	84	0			46	3	42	9
Wilts	82	0			41	10	40	10
Berks	84	11	56	0	43	6	44	6
Oxford	80	8			42	0	40	7
Bucks	79	4			50	0	47	2
Brecon	80	0	51	4	41	7	28	8
Montgo.	82	4					36	6
Radnor.	78	9			37	8	31	7

MARITIME COUNTIES.

	Wheat		Rye		Barley		Oats.	
	s.	d	s.	d.	s.	d	s.	d.
Essex	80	0	45	6	46	6	44	3
Kent	82	0			48	0	44	3
Sussex	75	10					44	6
Suffolk	77	2			42	2	40	5
Cambridge	76	8	44	0	44	0	31	9
Norfolk	73	6			40	6	32	0
Lincoln	83	1	61	0	45	6	38	1
York	84	6	69	4	44	3	37	10
Durham	89	0					36	7
Northumberland	76	11	64	0	52	10	42	0
Cumberland	86	10	62	0	46	11	40	4
Westmorland	95	6	69	0	42	10	38	8
Lancaster	82	7			51	0	34	10
Chester	79	1					32	10
Flint					44	2	28	10
Denbigh	89	1			46	4	38	3
Anglesea					40	0		
Carnarvon	85	4			43	0	30	8
Merioneth	88	4			45	6	30	4
Cardigan	81	2			44	0		
Pembroke	67	8			44	7	31	10
Carmarthen	81	4			44	10		
Glamorgan	78	4			40	0	29	4
Gloucester	85	4			38	11	38	11
Somerset	80	5			42	3	37	7
Monmouth	80	10						
Devon	76	10			38	10		
Cornwall	74	10			39	10	35	1
Dorset	79	6					39	0
Hants	77	4			41	6	41	9

Average of England and Wales.

Wheat 81s. 3d.; Rye 55s. 0d.; Barley 44s. 0d.; Oats 38s. 3d.; Beans 64s. 7d.; Pease 70s. 11d.; Oatmeal 51s. 0d.

BILL of MORTALITY, from JULY 27, to AUGUST 23, 1808.

CHRISTENED.			BURIED.		
Males 859	1639		Males, 727	1378	
Females 780			Females 651		
Whereof have died under two years old		506			

Between					
2 and 5	168	60 and 70	87		
5 and 10	39	70 and 80	69		
10 and 20	45	80 and 90	26		
20 and 30	86	90 and 100	4		
30 and 40	118				
40 and 50	126				
50 and 60	104				

Peck Loaf, 4s. 1d. 4s. 1d. 4s. 1d. 4s. 2d.

Salt, 20s. per bushel, 4½ per lb.

PRICE OF STOCKS, from JULY 26, 1808, to AUGUST 26, 1808, both inclusive.

Days 1808	Bank Stock.	3 p. Cent Consols.	3 p. Cent. Reduc.	4 p. Ct. Cons.	Navy 5 p. Cent.	N. 5 p. Ct.	Long Anns.	4 p. Ct. Scrip.	Imperial 3 p. Cent	Imperial Anns.	Irish 5p. C	Irish Ann.	S. Sea Stock.	S. Sea Anns.	India Sto.	India Bonds.	Exche. Bills.	Lottery Tickets	Cons. for Acct.
July																			
26	——	68⅛ ⅜	69	85⅛	99⅛	——	19 1-16th	2	——	¾	98½	——	——	——	——	6s. pm	8s. pm.	22 6	68⅜ 7/16
27	——	67⅞ 68⅛	68⅝	85⅛	98⅞	——	19	2¼	67⅞			——	——	——	——	6s. pm	7s. pm.	22 6	68 ⅜
28	——	67⅞ ¾	68⅝	85	98⅝	——	18⅞	1¾	——	7 11-16th	——	——	——	——	184½	6s. pm	7s. pm.	22 6	68 ⅜
29	——	67⅞ ⅝	68⅛	85	99	——	18 15-16ths	2¼	67⅞		——	——	——	——	——	6s pm	7s. pm.	22 6	68⅛ 7/16
30	——	67⅞ 68⅛	68¾	85⅛	99⅛	——	19	2	67⅞	7 11-16th	——	——	——	——	——	5s. pm	7s. pm.	22 6	68⅛ ⅜
Aug. 1	——	67⅞ 68⅛	68⅝	85	99⅛	——	19	2	——		——	——	——	——	——	6s. pm.	7s. pm	22 6	68 ⅜
2	——	67⅝ 68	68⅝	85	99	——	19	2	——	7 11-16th	——	——	——	——	——	6s. pm.	7s. pm	22 6	68 ⅜
3	——	67¾ ⅞	68⅝	84⅞	99	——	18 15-16ths	2	67⅞		——	——	——	——	——	6s. pm.	6s. pm.	22 6	68 ⅜
4	249½	67⅝ ¾	68⅛	84⅞	99	——	18 15-16ths	1¾	——	7 11-16th	97½	——	——	——	——	7s. pm	6s. pm.	22 6	67⅞ 68
5	——	67½ ¾	68⅝	84⅞	98⅞	——	18 15-16ths	1¾	67¼	7 11-16th	——	——	——	——	——	6s. pm	7s. pm.	22 6	67¾ ⅞
6	——	67½ ⅝	68⅛	84⅝	98⅝	——	18⅞	1¾	——		——	——	——	——	——	6s. pm	6s. pm.	22 6	67⅝ ¾
8	——	67⅝ ⅝	68¼	84⅝	98⅝	——	18⅞	1¾	——		——	——	——	——	——	6s. pm	——	22 6	67½ ⅝
9	248½	67½ ⅝	68¼	84½	98⅝	——	18⅞	1¾	——		——	——	——	——	——	5s. pm.	6s. pm	22 6	67⅝ ⅝
10	243½	66⅞ 67⅛	68⅜	84⅛	98⅝	——	18⅞	1	66⅞	7 11-16th	——	——	——	——	180	6s. pm	6s. pm.	22 6	67 ⅝
11	242	65½ 66⅝	67⅜	83½	97⅞	——	18 9-16ths	¾ dis.	65⅝		——	——	——	——	——	6s. pm	6s. pm	22 6	65¾ 66⅞
12	holiday																		
13	——	66¼ ⅜	67⅜	83⅜	98⅛	——	18 11-16ths	¼ pm	——		——	——	——	——	——	5s. pm	6s. pm	22 6	66½ 67
15	——	66⅜ ½	67¼	83⅛	98⅜	——	18 11-16ths	¼ dis.	——	7 11-16th	——	——	——	——	176¾	5s. pm.	6s. pm.	——	66⅞ ⅝
16	——	66⅜ ½	67	83¼	98¼	——	18 11-16ths	¼ dis.	65⅞		——	——	——	——	——	4s. pm.	6s. pm.	——	66⅞ ⅝
17	240	66¼ ½	67⅛	83⅛	98⅛	——	18 11-16ths	¼ pm.	66		——	——	——	——	177	4s. pm	5s. pm.	——	66⅛ ⅝
18	240	66⅜ ½	67⅛	83⅜	98⅜	——	18 11-16ths	¼ dis.	66		⅛	——	——	——	178	4s. pm	6s. pm	——	66⅛ ⅝
19	——	66⅛ ⅜	67⅛	83⅜	98⅜	——	18 11-16ths	¼ dis.	66		⅛	——	——	——	180	4s. pm	6s. pm	——	66¼ ⅝
20	——	66⅜ ⅜	67	83¼	98¼	——	18 11-16ths	¼ dis.	——		⅛	——	——	——	——	5s pm.	7s. pm	——	66⅛ ⅝
22	——	65½ 66	66⅝	82¾	98	——	18 9-16ths	1 dis.	65½		——	——	——	——	——	5s. pm	7s. pm.	——	65⅞ 66
23	240	65⅞ 66	66⅝	83	98	——	18 9-16ths	1 dis.	65⅝		——	——	——	——	180	4s. pm.	6s. pm.	——	65⅞ 66
24	holiday																		
25	——	65⅞ 66⅛	66⅜	83⅛	98⅛	——	18 9-16ths	⅜ dis.	——		——	——	——	——	——	4s pm.	6s. pm.	——	66⅛ ⅜
26	239½	66 ¼	66⅞	83¼	98¼	——	18 ⅝	½ dis.	65¾		——	——	——	——	——	4s. pm.	6s pm.	——	66⅜ ⅞

N.B. In the 3 per Cent Consols the *highest* and *lowest* Price of each day is given; in the other Stocks the *highest* only.

EDWARD FORTUNE, STOCK-BROKER and GENERAL AGENT, No. 13, Cornhill.